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Landslide halts Iraqi oil flow

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — A landslide has stopped the flow of oil for more than three days through the Turkish-Iraqi pipeline, a manager said Monday. Esat Can, director of Botsa, the company which runs the pipeline, told the Associated Press by telephone from the township of Ceyhan in the southern province of Adana, that the pipeline was broken in one point in the stretch between the townships of Osmaniye and Bahce, some 50 kilometres east of Ceyhan. He said heavy rains caused the earthquake, which struck around 2 a.m. on Friday (2400 GMT Thursday). Can said the landslide was about 700 metres long. Pumping was halted, he said. Crews were working to repair the damage, but Can said he couldn't estimate when oil would resume flowing. By Monday morning, Can said, the damage had prevented transport of an estimated 500,000 tonnes of oil. The 980-kilometre long pipeline carries 48 million tonnes of oil annually.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز يومية مستقلة تحت إشراف مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

CBJ amends refinancing provisions

AMMAN (Petra) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) governor Monday approved an amendment of the provisions governing the CBJ's refinancing of loans and advances to Jordanian banks against export documents which include letters of credit and guaranteed drafts. Under the new amendment, all Jordanian companies without exception can get a loan or advance to be settled during a maximum period of nine months, at an interest rate of 5 per cent and a margin of 1.5 per cent from the licensed banks or financial companies through which the loan requests are channelled. Before this amendment only public shareholding companies could benefit from the loans or advances provided by the CBJ. The new amendment, which will be in force with retroactive effect as of Feb. 10, is aimed at encouraging national exports and enabling them to compete with foreign commodities and to open new scopes for Jordanian products.

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Haj Hassan to chair labour conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Al Haj Hassan was elected on Monday chairman of the 73rd session of the International Labour Conference due to be held in Geneva next June. The election took place during a closed session of the Arab Labour Ministers, currently meeting in Baghdad.

2 Israelis hurt in West Bank protests

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli man and a boy were wounded Monday when Palestinians stoned Israeli vehicles near refugee camps during a protest in the occupied West Bank, police said. The boy was hurt when a bus in which he was travelling was stoned outside Dheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem. Israeli authorities then clamped a two-hour curfew on the camp. In the other incident, an Israeli man was hurt when his car was hit by stones outside Jallazum refugee camp near Ramallah, police said.

Abdallah lawyer resigns from bar

PARIS (R) — The former lawyer of Lebanese guerrilla leader Georges Ibrahim Abdallah has resigned from the Paris Bar after admitting last week that he worked for the French secret services while defending him, justice sources said Monday. Jean-Paul Mazaurio, 32, said he passed on the text of messages given him by Abdallah to transmit to the guerrilla's followers.

Reagan aide quits after week on job

WASHINGTON (AP) — White House communications chief John O. Koehler resigned Monday, bowing to a request from newly named White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker. Koehler, who quit after just one week on the job, announced his departure during a visit to the White House briefing room.

12 dead in Chilean train crash

SANTIAGO (R) — Twelve people, three of them children, were killed Monday when a freight train ploughed into a passenger train at a station in southern Chile, police said. Officials said 30 people were also injured in the accident at Pelequen, 120 kilometres south of Santiago.

Paris deputy mayor's house attacked

PARIS (R) — French police arrested three men and a woman after shots were fired at officers guarding the home of Paris Deputy Mayor Jean Tiberi but said they had ruled out any political motive for the attack. Police sources said the three men were arrested after a chase across Paris and gunfire in which one of them was seriously wounded. Another was hurt while being arrested but no police were injured.

Shevardnadze in Laos

BANGKOK, Thailand (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has reaffirmed Moscow's close ties with Communist Indochina and accused the United States of trying to foster "military and political confrontation" in Asia. Laotian media reported Monday.

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Jordan rejects conditional aid for West Bank plan

Dudin: Welfare of Palestinians is focus of 5-year plan

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin Monday said that the real challenge of the Jordanian-sponsored five-year plan for the occupied territories was to activate effective mechanisms for spending money on projects which would benefit the largest possible number of Arab inhabitants and he emphasised that the programme had been initiated to draw world attention to the plight of the Palestinians who, he said, were in "bad shape" and needed urgent help.

However, he stressed that although Jordan would welcome help in financing the programme, the Kingdom would "not accept any contributions with constraints or strings." He did not say whether or not Jordan had received any conditional offers to help finance the \$1.3 billion five-year plan for the Israeli-held territories, but spoke with optimism

about aid pledges from Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and the United States, although he gave no figures.

The minister said that the contributions were not expected to fall short of expectations and reiterated that Jordan's main concern was to see real benefits for the Arab population living under Israeli rule. He said

that whether the funds were channelled through Jordan or via international organisations and voluntary societies was not the main issue as long as the Palestinian people received the support they so badly needed.

Addressing the Monday Press Circle, Mr. Dudin explained that in the absence of a national executive body in the West Bank, Jordan had recently divided the West Bank into eight districts and formed committees to supervise the implementation and execution of development projects.

The committees, grouping senior Jordanian government employees appointed before the 1967 Israeli occupation and private sector individuals, would largely have a supervisory role but at a later date would also put forward proposals for future projects in consultation with local experts in different sectors — health, education, agriculture etc.

Mr. Dudin described the new system as "flexible" in that it could accommodate different needs as they arose and could be

open to changes if necessary. These committees will by and large follow tried and tested procedures used in the East Bank for issuing tenders, and for purchases. They will also act as watchdogs against any possible malpractice by certifying that contractors have completed phases of projects before payments are forwarded by the Jordanian government via the Cairo-Amman Bank in Nabulus.

Stressing the need for accountability on all levels, Mr. Dudin said that all allocations for the development programme had been carefully prepared and would be spent properly and monitored.

He conceded that the plan was a new departure and that it would not be easy to implement.

On projects for the Gaza Strip, the minister said that they would be conducted through a charitable society chaired by former Mayor of Gaza Rashad Shawwa. The Gaza Strip area of operations is listed as a separate region in addition to the eight districts in the West Bank.

Iraqi jets hit 2 'large targets' in Gulf

NICOSIA (AP) — Iraq said its warplanes hit two "large maritime targets" in the northern waters of the Gulf Monday amid a new round of tit-for-tat ship attacks in the 6-year-old war with Iran.

That raised to four the number of ships the Iraqis claim have been hit in air strikes in the last three days in an apparent intensification of the three-year-old "tanker war" with Iran. Iran and Iraq have been at war since September 1980.

Lloyds Shipping Intelligence in London confirmed two of the four attacks. It identified one of the stricken vessels as the 130,606-tonne Iranian steam tanker Khark 5, which it said was attacked by Iraq on Saturday.

The Iraqi raid badly damaged the ship and its engine room was flooded with water, Lloyds said. It gave no other details on the Saturday attack. It confirmed a second attack but said no other details had reached Lloyds.

The official Iraqi News Agency (INA), monitored in Nicosia, quoted a military spokesman in Baghdad as saying that fighter-bombers scored "an accurate and effective hit," on a vessel in the first strike at 1.05 p.m. (1005 GMT) Monday.

A half-hour later, Iraqi warplanes hit a second vessel in the same area, a communiqué said.

The agency did not identify the ships. But "large maritime target" usually means a tanker carrying Iranian oil. The Iraqi reports indicated both ships were hit by missiles.

Iranian ships hit in Iraqi attacks in the war zone in the northern Gulf usually are aided by Iranian vessels and confirmation of attacks can take a day or two.

Iraq claimed Saturday that its fighter-bombers hit two other "maritime targets" in the northern sector.

The military spokesman said Monday's raid was, like previous attacks, "in line with Iraq's firm course of cutting off the Iranian regime's oil supplies which are used for aggressive purposes."

Berri raises hopes for release of hostages

BEIRUT (R) — Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia chief Nabih Berri said Monday he was optimistic over the possible release of four foreigners, including three Americans, kidnapped by militants in Lebanon.

He also said speculation over the fate of British church envoy Terry Waite — reported abducted in west Beirut on Jan. 20 — had delayed the 47-year-old Briton's release.

"I am optimistic. It will take a little time, but I'm sure we will arrive at a happy solution," Mr. Berri told reporters after meeting the wives of four foreign professors snatched from a west Beirut university campus on Jan. 24.

A clandestine group calling itself the "Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine" says it holds the four — Americans Alann Steen, Robert Polhill and Jesse Turner as well as the Indian colleague, Mithleshwar Singh.

Mr. Berri, for the second time in a week, renewed his offer to swap an Israeli airman captured by his Amal militia last October for 400 Lebanese and Palestinians held by Israel if the kidnappers free their four captives.

"I repeat my offer," he said. "The problem is to liberate the four. After that I don't need more than 10 days for the exchange. Before anything else, I need to see these four men come back to their university."

He said Amal had prepared a list of those it wanted released from Israeli jails, while Palestinians were still drawing up their own list of prisoners.

Asked about Mr. Waite, Mr. Berri said: "Speculation on Waite by the media has harmed him and delayed his release which should have been a while ago." The Amal leader did not elaborate.

The lay aide to the Archbishop of Canterbury arrived in Beirut on Jan. 12 to resume a mission to free some of the foreign hostages.

Eight days later he vanished, and militia sources said he had been seized by the captors of foreigners he sought to free because the kidnappers were enraged by unfulfilled pledges he was alleged to have given them.

Mr. Waite's abduction brought to 27 the number of foreigners missing, believed kidnapped, in Lebanon.

Mr. Berri said media reports that the captives were held there or in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley were "inaccurate."

Junblatt urges Syria to enter south Beirut; Hizbollah warns against it

PARIS (R) — Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt called in an interview Monday for Syrian troops to enter Shi'ite-held suburbs of southern Beirut, where Western hostages are believed held.

Commenting on the effects of Syria's military intervention in Beirut, Mr. Junblatt told the French daily Le Matin:

"It is fine as a first stage, but there still are other things to do, for example in the southern suburbs, to make pacification a total success, fair to everybody."

Mr. Junblatt, whose forces withdrew from west Beirut to the Druze-controlled Shouf Mountains when Syrian troops moved in, also said British church envoy Terry Waite was in the hands of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) in south Beirut.

"God's envoy disappeared with God's people," he told Le Matin. Asked if he meant Waite was held prisoner by Hizbollah militants, he replied: "Yes, I am definite, it (Hizbollah) is responsible."

Militia sources in west Beirut have accused Hizbollah of kidnapping hostages and holding in south Beirut some of the 27 Westerners missing in Lebanon.

A senior Hizbollah official Sunday warned Syria against moving into the southern suburbs

of the Lebanese capital.

"Our weapons will remain in our hands and we will not allow anyone to disarm us in the Bekaa, the south of Beirut," Abbas Musawi said Saturday.

He was speaking in the southern Lebanese port of Tyre at one of three rallies to honour 18 Hizbollah militants killed by Syrian troops when Damascus cracked down on militia gunlaw in mainly Muslim west Beirut last month.

The Syrians so far have stayed clear of the Shi'ite Muslim southern suburbs, where some of the 27 foreigners missing in Lebanon, including British church envoy Terry Waite, are believed held.

Militia sources in west Beirut have accused Hizbollah of kidnapping foreigners and holding them in the southern suburbs.

Hizbollah, thought to have around 2,000 regular fighters, has denied kidnapping or holding foreigners.

The Hizbollah militants were killed in February by Syrian troops after they seized the group's "Fathallah Barracks" in west Beirut.

The killings, part of a crackdown on opposition militias by more than 7,000 Syrian troops, were denounced by Iran.

Fathallah Barracks was reputed to have served as a prison for the group's militants.

"Our weapons will remain in

(Continued on page 3)

Hindawi rearrested in Italy

GENOA, Italy (R) — An Arab student, Awmi Hindawi, has been rearrested on charges of political conspiracy after a review tribunal accepted a prosecutor's appeal against his release, judicial sources said Monday.

Hindawi, 26, is a cousin of Nizar Hindawi, sentenced in London last year to 45 years in jail for allegedly attempting to have his pregnant Irish girlfriend carry a bomb on an Israeli airliner.

Awmi Hindawi was arrested in June last year in Genoa on charges of belonging to an armed band. He was released at the beginning of February because of lack of evidence.

But the sources said a review tribunal had accepted an appeal by the public prosecutor's office and agreed to Hindawi's arrest on the new charge of political conspiracy by association. The prosecutor alleged he was a member of a Middle Eastern guerrilla organisation.

Since his release Hindawi, a student at Genoa University, had been living with the family of his Italian girlfriend near the town of Savona, north west of Genoa.

Andreotti asked to form new Italian government

ROME (R) — President Francesco Cossiga Monday asked veteran Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti to try to form a new government in spite of strong opposition from the Socialists to his nomination.

After almost a week of consultations on how to resolve the crisis caused by the resignation of Socialist Prime Minister Bettino Craxi last Tuesday, Mr. Cossiga nominated Mr. Andreotti, 68, as prime minister-designate, government officials said.

They said Mr. Andreotti would wait until he had ascertained whether he could form a new term before officially accepting a normal procedure in Italy.

Mr. Andreotti made it clear to reporters at the presidential palace that he would try to put together a government on the same basis as the outgoing coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Liberals and Social Democrats.

There were some forecasts that because of the strength of Socialist opposition, Mr. Cossiga would take an intermediate course rather than give a full mandate to Mr. Andreotti right away.

The Socialists regard the shrewd Andreotti, who has been

prime minister five times before, as a symbol of the pre-Craxi era when the majority Christian Democrats regarded the premiership and their dominant position as their right.

They said the Christian Democrats should not be given an automatic right to impose Mr. Andreotti, who was foreign minister in the outgoing administration.

Mr. Cossiga had little room for manoeuvre. The members of the outgoing government agreed that the prime minister should be a Christian Democrat and the party insisted that Mr. Andreotti was his choice.

Mr. Andreotti's last spell in the prime minister's office, in 1979, lasted only 11 days and he has been unsuccessful four times in forming an administration after receiving a mandate, twice as a result of Socialist opposition.

Asked about the difficulties he faced Monday, he said: "I don't think the task of forming a government has ever been easy."

Socialist deputy leader Claudio Martelli said in a weekend newspaper interview that if Mr. Cossiga gave a mandate to Mr. Andreotti "he would condemn him to failure."

King condoles families of ferry disaster victims

AMMAN (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday cabled British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher with condolences on the loss of life in the ferry disaster off the Belgian coast last week.

The official Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted the King as saying: "My people and my government join me in extending to you, and through you to the bereaved families of the innocent victims our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences. May the Almighty God grant the victims of this tragedy eternal peace, and may He bestow the blessings of patience and wisdom on members of their families to accept His will."

Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou sent a similar message to Mrs. Thatcher expressing his "deep sorrow" over the ferry disaster, an official statement said.

"On behalf of the government and people of Cyprus, I express deep sorrow and request your excellency to convey to the relatives of those lost our sincere sympathy and condolences," his message said.

Meanwhile in London British Transport Secretary John Moore said Monday the channel ferry Herald of Free Enterprise capsized after an inrush of water gushed through its bow loading doors in one of Britain's worst peacetime tragedies at sea.

Mr. Moore, addressing a pack-

ed House of Commons three days after the disaster left a casualty toll of 53 dead, 81 missing and 409 rescued, said there was no evidence of a design fault in the seven-year-old British ferry built in West Germany.

"The preliminary reports which I have received suggest that the capsizing of the vessel was because of an inrush of water through the bow loading doors," he said.

"I have no evidence to suggest that this was due to any fundamental fault in the design of the ship."

Mr. Moore said the government was donating £1 million (\$1.6 million) to a special disaster fund being set up by the local council in the ferry's home port of Dover.

"There is no evidence to impose restrictions on (ferry) operators," he added.

Mr. Moore, who spent most of Friday night and Saturday in the Belgian port of Zeebrugge where the accident happened, said British government inspectors had already started a series of checks on roll-on roll-off ferries to ensure that door mechanisms are in working order.

He also said ferry operators were being asked to fit warning lights on the bridge to indicate when the doors were closed.

The Herald of Free Enterprise, operated by Townsend Thoresen,

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. court clears bank in UNEXCO case

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. has ruled against charges by a U.S. banking group that Jordan's Petra Bank had cooperated with a Jordanian money-changing firm in a multi-million "cheque-kiting conspiracy."

The court ruling, dated Feb. 20, dismissed as unfounded the complaint by First Chicago, saying the available record "contains nothing that implicates Petra International (Petra Bank's Washington branch) in any wrongdoing."

The ruling, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times, said that "the only references to Petra International that occur for the most part, exoner-

ate that defendant from the charges levelled at it."

In a lawsuit filed last year, First Chicago, a subsidiary of the First National Bank of Chicago, accused United Exchange Company Ltd. (UNEXCO) and Petra International of defrauding it and was seeking \$23.2 million it said was drawn in overdrafts by UNEXCO.

The money-changing company had deposited 29 cheques in a First Chicago account, drawn on Petra International, and made a \$28 million withdrawal against the cheques before they were cleared. Petra International disavowed the cheques for lack of sufficient funds, resulting in over \$23 million in overdrafts.

Court dismissal of charges

(Continued on page 3)

Shamir refuses to discuss Pollard case with key Knesset committee

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir refused Monday to report to a key parliament committee on the Pollard spy case, saying it has been investigated enough and those involved were already severely punished.

Prominent legislator Abba Eban, angered by Shamir's silence, said the watch-dog Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee which he heads would open its own inquiry into the scandal.

Other Israeli officials called for the resignations of those involved in hiring former U.S. naval analyst Jonathan J. Pollard and permitting the spying operation which has damaged Israel's ties with its most important ally, the United States.

Pollard, 32, was sentenced last Wednesday to life in prison for selling Israel hundreds of classified U.S. military documents.

Four Israelis were allegedly involved in the espionage ring, which Israel claims was operated without government sanction. One of the four, air force com-

mander Aviem Sella, was indicted by a U.S. federal grand jury last week on espionage charges.

Shamir, in his first nationwide comment on the issue since Pollard's sentencing, said, "I think that this affair, disclosed and made public 15 months ago, has been investigated enough."

"It is known to those responsible for such matters in the country and I don't see any need to investigate further, and the majority (of ministers) thinks like I do," Shamir told Israel Radio.

Right-wing cabinet minister Ariel Sharon went on the offensive, calling on Israel to "stand firm and not give in to any (U.S.) pressure" over the affair.

"No damage has been done to the United States by what happened," Sharon told army radio. "Israel has expressed sorrow for what it has done and by that has fulfilled its duty."

In a separate interview on Israel Radio, Sharon added: "Israel does not receive from the

U.S. all the information it needs, certainly not. If we compare what we gave over the years compared with what we got, we without doubt gave much more in much more important fields than we received."

Shamir told Eban's committee in a closed-door meeting that he decided not to report on the Pollard affair because he wanted to stem growing hysteria over the issue, the radio said.

Eban told reporters: "I was not satisfied with a report that told us nothing and I cannot accept the formulation that Israel must not investigate the matter."

He said Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin would address the Intelligence Services Subcommittee Thursday and added, "I reserve the right to take testimony from everybody who was involved, including those who have been described as undertaking this activity."

Rabin has come under growing criticism for his handling of the Pollard affair.

Walters: Irangate hurting U.S. image

LISBON (R) — U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Vernon Walters said Monday the Irangate arms scandal had damaged the standing of the United States abroad and made his job more difficult.

"I must recognise that, to an extent, the United States has been hurt and that my job as a roving spokesman has been made more difficult," Gen. Walters told reporters in Lisbon.

But he defended the Reagan administration's role in covert arms sales to Iran by saying:

"Errors, not crimes, were committed and the U.S. media seem to be hogging a dead horse in trying to keep the affair alive."

Gen. Walters is on a European tour aimed at briefing foreign governments about U.N. affairs and canvassing support for a U.S. move to have Cuba's human rights record investigated by the U.N. Human Rights Commission.

"We do not seek primarily to condemn Cuba but to ask that they release more prisoners and give better treatment to those

who remain in jail," he said, adding that Fidel Castro was sensitive to foreign pressure on human rights.

Gen. Walters accused Cuba of holding 14,000 political prisoners, an allegation denied by Havana.

He was due to meet Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva and other government officials during a brief stay in Portugal and said he particularly welcomed their views on Mozambique and Angola, both former Portuguese colonies.

Prosecutor reportedly moves towards indictment in Iran case

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The special prosecutor in the Iran arms scandal is expected to bring indictments that could include felony charges against senior Reagan administration officials, the New York Times reported Monday.

The newspaper, quoting law enforcement officials with knowledge of the investigation, said special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh, appointed to investigate the sale of arms to Iran and diversion of funds to the U.S.-backed contra rebels in Nicaragua, was focusing on three areas.

It identified these as conspiracy to defraud the government, obstructing justice and making false statements to the government. It said the prosecutor had not ruled out any suspects, including current and former government officials.

However, the paper noted that Mr. Walsh was under time constraints because Congress has begun granting immunity to key figures in the affair in order to speed congressional investigations of the affair.

Such grants of immunity generally preclude prosecutors from using that material for criminal charges.

The Times quoted an official source as saying the investigation was focusing on a strong possibility of a broad criminal conspiracy involving administration officials and private citizens tied to the sale of arms to Iran and channelling of proceeds to the Nicaraguan rebels.

It quoted one official as saying that, while obstruction of justice was usually hard to prove, evidence of a cover-up "may have been comically obvious here."

Meanwhile the Washington Post reported that President Reagan's denial that he knew proceeds from Iran arms sales were diverted to Nicaraguan contra rebels might be challenged by his former national security adviser.

The paper said Sunday that Adm. John Poindexter, who resigned last November when the illegal transfer of up to \$20 million was disclosed, was ready to break the silence he has so far maintained over the affair.

The Post said he might tell a special Senate committee investigating the Iran scandal that he told Mr. Reagan twice in 1986 that money from Iran sales was being used for aid to the contras.

It said the panel was considering granting Adm. Poindexter immunity from prosecution over the fund diversion, which was illegal under a congressional ban in force at the time against aid for the contras.

Adm. Poindexter has so far invoked the fifth amendment to the constitution which protects people from giving evidence which could be self-incriminating.

Mr. Reagan has said he authorized the sale of arms to Iran in the hope of establishing links with Iranian moderates, but has denied knowing that proceeds were ending up in Nicaraguan rebel hands.

A White House spokesman had no comment on the Post story, but David Abshire, who is coordinating White House handling of the affair, said Mr. Reagan would never approve any illegal action.

Mr. Abshire, on the CBS television show "Face the Nation," did not comment directly on the Post story, but said: "He (Reagan) is deeply honest, he is deeply dedicated, he tells the truth and when he says he has no knowledge, he has no knowledge."

The Post quoted a source close to Mr. Reagan as saying the White House expected Adm. Poindexter "will say he had direction and authority, directly or indirectly, from the president for the diversion of funds."

The paper said the former security adviser's testimony could damage the president's claim he was unaware of the funds diversion.

It quoted a legal source as saying Adm. Poindexter and his lawyers planned to contend that twice in 1986 he told Mr. Reagan that the arms sales were generating money for the "contras."

The paper quoted the source as saying Adm. Poindexter did not tell Mr. Reagan there was an illegal diversion of funds, but that help for the contras was "an ancillary benefit" of the sales.

The Post's sources also said the Senate committee could grant immunity from prosecution this month to Oliver North, who was fired from the National Security Council on the same day that Adm. Poindexter resigned.

Col. North, who is alleged to have masterminded the diversion, has also up to now cited the fifth amendment in refusing to testify. Mr. Reagan, returning to the White House on Sunday, brushed aside reporters' questions about Adm. Poindexter and any testimony the former national security adviser might give to the Senate committee.

Mr. Abshire, asked whether Mr. Reagan could have forgotten that he was told about the diversion, said it was not a possibility.

"Not in my judgment, because that is too clear an area... the president is strong on aiding the contras, but to do it through anything that was a violation of the law is totally opposite Ronald Reagan," Mr. Abshire said.

Mr. Abshire said a White House devotion to protecting the secrecy of the Iranian arms sale initiative probably accounts for its difficulty in furnishing investigators with documentation of crucial decision-making.

"I don't think the president of the United States should be the notetaker in meetings," he said. "Secrecy was carried to the point that a record was not kept. That first decision on the sale of arms... should have been done on paper and not handled the way that it was."

Swedish minister voices difficulty in arms probe

STOCKHOLM (R) — The Swedish minister responsible for approving weapons exports said Monday the government faced an almost impossible task in trying to get to the bottom of arms smuggling allegations.

Foreign Trade Minister Anita Gradin said it would be hard for a government inquiry into a multi-million-dollar arms scandal to get a complete picture from purchasing countries.

Peace groups have accused Bofors, Sweden's biggest arms manufacturer, of illegally exporting advanced anti-aircraft missiles to Middle East countries black-listed by Sweden's strict arms export laws, including Iran, Syria and Dubai.

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson promised last week that every one of the missiles would be traced from factory floor to its final destination to establish

whether any arms were "laundered" through middleman countries.

"It is hardly possible to make any complete investigation of where all the missiles went. We cannot make any inspection in recipient countries," Gradin told reporters.

The government would consider if a sharpening of Sweden's arms export laws was necessary once the investigations into the Bofors affair was completed.

Sweden's chief negotiator at the Geneva disarmament talks, Maj-Gen. Theorin, called Sunday for Sweden's exports to be restricted to the other Nordic countries and non-aligned states.

Speaking at a women's conference in the central Swedish town of Jonkoping, Theorin said weapons exports provided a moral dilemma for neutral Sweden.

Iranian aide stresses strong ties with Syria

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi has said that strengthening ties between his country and Syria is "a must," Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Monday.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mr. Mohtashemi as saying before he left Damascus Sunday night after three days of talks with Syrian leaders that Iran and Syria have "very close and strong ties."

Mr. Mohtashemi said his visit to the Syrian capital was aimed primarily at discussing Syria's Feb. 22 military intervention in mainly Muslim West Beirut to end factional fighting and the killing by Syrian troops of pro-Iranian militants.

Syrian troops killed 23 members of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah, or Party of God, in Beirut two days later, drawing sharp criticism from Tehran.

The Shi'ite Muslim fundamentalists of Hizbollah seek to create an Iranian-style Islamic republic in Lebanon, a development that Syria opposes.

Syria is Iran's main Arab ally in its 6½-year-old Gulf war against Iraq, with whom the Syrians also are at odds.

But the alliance has shown signs of fraying in recent months. Syria and Iran have widely differ-

ing ambitions in Lebanon.

The Syrians, who moved 7,500 troops and 100 tanks into Beirut, so far have not moved into the city's Shi'ite southern slums, Hizbollah's stronghold, but have ringed the area with tanks and artillery.

IRNA quoted Mr. Mohtashemi as saying that he discussed "Lebanese issue" with Syrian President Hafez Assad in a three-hour meeting Saturday and delivered a message from Iranian President Ali Khamenei. He did not disclose the contents.

Mr. Mohtashemi quoted Mr. Assad as saying that Damascus "appreciated the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist" efforts by Hizbollah and stressed that the slaying of the 23 Hizbollah militants "was not premeditated."

However, the killings have clearly raised the temperature between Damascus and Tehran at a time when the Syrians are under growing Arab pressure to stop backing Iran against Iraq.

The Syrians are under pressure as well to free 26 foreign hostages held by Muslim extremists in Lebanon. Most are believed held by Shi'ite fundamentalists linked to Hizbollah in south Beirut.

Any Syrian move to push into Beirut's Shi'ite bastion would further strain relations between Damascus and Tehran.

NEWS IN BRIEF

EAU chief meets Mubarak

CAIRO (R) — Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), had talks Monday with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on African issues and bilateral ties. Sassou-Nguesso arrived Sunday for a meeting of the OAU's nine-member Coordinating Bureau, starting on Wednesday, to discuss Africa's debt crisis and other issues. At a banquet given by Mr. Mubarak Sunday night, Mr. Sassou-Nguesso said Congo supported the idea of an international Middle East peace conference. "My country supports the convening of an international conference to be attended by all parties concerned," he said. "The Palestinian people have the right to set up their own home... all parties must live in peace within internationally recognised borders without resorting to force," he added.

3 win King Faisal prizes

RIYADH (R) — A Nigerian, a Briton and a New Zealander have won gold medals and cash prizes of 350,000 riyals (\$93,000) each from the King Faisal Foundation for their service to Islam, science and medicine. The official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said the awards, named after the late Saudi king, went to Sheikh Abu Bakr Mahmud Jumi of Nigeria for service to Islam, Britain's Michael Francis Atiyah for work in algebraic geometry and theoretical physics, and Barrie Russell Jones of New Zealand for his work in preventing blindness. Sheikh Jumi, Nigeria's top Islamic authority and scholar, has translated the Koran and traditions of the Prophet Muhammad into his native Hausa. Jones was quoted by SPA as saying he would use the money to continue his fight against blindness in the developing world, particularly Africa. Atiyah, of Oxford University, has explored the interrelation between different branches of mathematics and mathematics and theoretical physics.

Wafd issues 1st opposition daily

CAIRO (R) — The rightwing New Wafd Party Monday issued Egypt's first daily opposition newspaper in more than three decades to mark the start of campaigning for parliamentary elections on April 6. Opposition newspapers were banned when political parties were dissolved in 1953, but the ban was lifted when the late President Anwar Sadat reintroduced a multi-party system in 1976. All five of Egypt's legal parties, ranging from extreme left to extreme right, issue weekly editions. The 12-page Al Wafd newspaper carried a big front-page cartoon depicting the government as a woman weeping and saying: "what a day." An editorial by editor Mustafa Shurdi said Wafd had decided to appear daily at the request of the Egyptian people. "We are responding to the nation's order," he said. The ruling National Democratic Party's weekly newspaper, Mayo, also plans to appear daily from next month.

Morocco cites obstacles to Mideast conference

TOKYO (R) — Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed of Morocco told Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Monday there were many obstacles to an international peace conference on the Middle East, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

"We must decide on many things and make detailed preparations for such a conference to succeed," the officials quoted the prince as saying.

The possibility of holding a conference has been discussed recently by Israeli and U.S. officials. Two months ago the foreign ministers of the 12-nation European Community issued a statement favouring the holding of a conference under United Nations auspices to include all interested parties.

Prince Sidi Mohammed, son of King Hassan, is on the second day of a six-day official trip.

Polisario claims inflicting 300 casualties on Moroccans

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — The Polisario Front has said that its guerrillas killed or wounded 300 Moroccan soldiers in an attack last week in the Western Sahara and briefly occupied a section of Morocco's defensive wall.

A statement by the Algerian-backed Polisario said guerrillas also captured 28 Moroccan soldiers in the Friday attack in the north eastern Farsia region.

It said the guerrillas occupied for four hours a 20-kilometre section of the 2,415-kilometre-

Defence says Demjanjuk improperly interrogated

TEL AVIV (AP) — The defence in the trial of John Demjanjuk, a former naturalised American charged with being a sadistic Nazi death camp guard, said Monday that Demjanjuk was improperly interrogated and his rights were violated.

Demjanjuk's U.S. attorney, Mark O'Connor, said his client had "no privacy, nowhere to hide in his cell... no human dignity" during his 12 months of solitary confinement in Israel's Ayalon Prison.

Mr. O'Connor claimed Demjanjuk was not told of his rights, was observed round-the-clock by three guards and a video camera and had no heater in his cold cell because, according to police, he "may try to commit suicide."

Mr. O'Connor made the points while cross-examining Alex Ish-Shalom, the chief investigator in the case. Ish-Shalom confirmed that these were the conditions of Demjanjuk's confinement but claimed he had no jurisdiction to change them.

Demjanjuk, 66, is accused of being the Nazi guard "Ivan the Terrible" who ran the gas chambers at the Treblinka camp in Nazi-occupied Poland where 850,000 people were killed in 1942 and 1943.

Mr. O'Connor claims his client, a retired Ohio auto worker, is a victim of mistaken identity and was himself a prisoner of war in German camps during World War II.

Ish-Shalom said Demjanjuk told policemen who guarded his cell and later repeated to his interrogators that "Eichmann was big whereas I am small" but denied he was the Treblinka guard Ivan.

Adolf Eichmann was hanged in 1962.

"This statement to me as an investigator was significant," Ish-Shalom said. "It was repeated in other forms later... that's what led us to believe" that Demjanjuk was the guard Ivan.

Demjanjuk listened to the exchange with great interest, sitting on the edge of his seat and at times moving as if to stand up. Demjanjuk's son John Jr., 21, sat behind his father during Monday morning's proceedings.

Ish-Shalom said his six-member team questioned Demjanjuk about 60 times at the maximum security Ayalon Prison and three interrogators and a Ukrainian interpreter were present during each session.

Lange: Libya making fresh diplomatic drive in Pacific

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange said Monday Libya appeared to be making a fresh diplomatic thrust into the South Pacific but hinted that the drive could be blunted if richer nations in the region gave more help to the groups being wooed.

Mr. Lange said there appeared to have been some contacts between Libya and pro-independence groups in French-ruled New Caledonia following Tripoli's diplomatic successes in already-independent Vanuatu.

He added: "One of the things about Vanuatu is this: If you continue to ostracise them or if in New Caledonia the people get to an acute sense of frustration because they haven't had what they see as proper solidarity and support from regional nations, the temptation is that they do go ahead and flamboyantly forge what could be quite detrimental linkages with other countries."

Mr. Lange told a news conference that New Zealand, which established diplomatic relations with Libya in 1983, had stopped expressing doubt about the situation.

"We're working to see that they (groups being wooed by Libya) do not get driven into

romantic and peculiar liaisons with countries whose interests don't coincide with our region," he said.

He cited New Zealand's boost in aid for Vanuatu, relief efforts after a recent cyclone and the decision to open a diplomatic mission in Vila later this year as the sort of moves that had boosted relations.

The prime minister reacted sharply when asked by a reporter what was wrong with Libya boosting its presence in the South Pacific.

"I think that is a clear example of a group meddling in the affairs of a region with no prospect of having their work welcomed, seen only as a threat and done for either religious or political bias which is not in the interests of the people of this region," he said. An Australian newspaper, the Age, said on Saturday that Libya had launched a campaign to boost diplomatic and commercial activity in the South Pacific.

The Melbourne daily quoted Shaban Gashut, effectively Libya's ambassador to Australia and the South-West Pacific, as saying the move could lead to financial support for Kanaks fighting for independence in New Caledonia.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:30 Programme Review
15:35 Cartoons
16:30 Inventive Boy
16:30 Ecology Workshop
17:00 Pukly Bristover
17:30 Festivals of the World
18:00 Religious programme
18:30 Arabic Series
19:30 Local programme on education
19:30 Jordan Review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:25 Tomorrow's programme
21:30 Law and the Society (local)
22:10 Songs from the movies (Arabic)
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic Play
00:20 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Mollie pour rire et pleurer
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Economics Made Easy
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 No Place Like Home
21:00 Beyond 2000
21:30 Tuesday variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:20 The Fourth Arm

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 KHz. FM & partly on 850 KHz. SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:45 Morning Show Cont.
11:00 Easy Listening
11:30 News Summary
12:05 Readings
12:30 Pop Session
12:50 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Pop Talk
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:45 Instrumentals, Old Favourites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1223 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Loved by the Gods 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News 07:30 News 07:50 News Summary 08:30 News 08:50 News Summary 09:30 News 09:50 News Summary 10:30 News 10:50 News Summary 11:30 News 11:50 News Summary 12:30 News 12:50 News Summary 13:30 News 13:50 News Summary 14:30 News 14:50 News Summary 15:30 News 15:50 News Summary 16:30 News 16:50 News Summary 17:30 News 17:50 News Summary 18:30 News 18:50 News Summary 19:30 News 19:50 News Summary 20:30 News 20:50 News Summary 21:30 News 21:50 News Summary 22:30 News 22:50 News Summary 23:30 News 23:50 News Summary 00:30 News 00:50 News Summary 01:30 News 01:50 News Summary 02:30 News 02:50 News Summary 03:30 News 03:50 News Summary 04:30 News 04:50 News Summary 05:30 News 05:50 News Summary 06:30 News 06:50 News Summary 07:30 News 07:50 News Summary 08:30 News 08:50 News Summary 09:30 News 09:50 News Summary 10:30 News 10:50 News Summary 11:30 News 11:50 News Summary 12:30 News 12:50 News Summary 13:30 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Touqan affirms need for peace conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Foreign Affairs Secretary-General Tayseer Touqan said Monday that a just, durable and comprehensive solution to the Middle East question can be achieved through an international peace conference, involving the parties concerned in the Middle East, as well as the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

During a meeting with the visiting U.S. director of the War Veterans Organisation's National Security and External Relations Department, Mr. Kenneth Stedman, and another organisation member, Larry Rivers, Mr. Touqan said that Jordan has been exerting efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Touqan called on the United States to adopt a balanced position and objective policy towards the Middle East in order to restore its credibility, severely damaged by the Iran arms sales.

Mr. Touqan reviewed Jordan's efforts to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war, and credited Iraq with a positive response to mediation efforts. Mr. Touqan called on all governments and nations to stop supplying Iran with arms in view of its intransigent position vis-a-vis international initiatives to achieve a peaceful settlement.

The U.S. War Veteran Organisation, which comprises 2,700,000 Americans who took part in the American wars, has an influence on decision-makers in the United States.

Minister commemorates dental, health care day

AMMAN (Petra) — In its efforts to achieve the World Health Organisation (WHO) goal of Health for All by the year 2000, Jordan has been making intensive efforts in the field of primary health care, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said on Monday.

Addressing participants in the 4th Jordanian Day of Dental Care and Health, Dr. Hamzeh said dental care is an integral part of public health and stressed the ministry's interest in ensuring that all citizens have good dental health. He pointed out that the ministry, through school health teams, makes periodic check-ups of students teeth, and educate them on preventive measures to protect their teeth.

Dr. Hamzeh added that the ministry opened eight new dental clinics last year, thus bringing to 73 the number of clinics in Jordan.

Dr. Hamzeh stressed the importance of continual awareness of dental services, saying that it has contributed to raising the number of patients calling at the dental clinics for treatment from 149,790 patients in 1984 to 226,825 in 1988.

The minister also pointed out that the ministry has conducted a comprehensive survey of drinking water to make sure that it includes fluoride.

Qatanani reviews projects to be carried in West Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Ahmad Qatanani conferred here Monday with Mr. Mirwah Al Anis, mayor of the occupied West Bank town of Ya'bad.

They reviewed the town's health services and the work of charity societies as well as the expansion of the government hospital to increase services to the local inhabitants.

Dr. Qatanani said that a special committee supervising the implementation of projects in the occupied West Bank will include these health services in their programme.

Later, Dr. Qatanani met with Mr. Philip Davies, director of a social development organisation operating in the occupied West Bank and explained to him projects to be carried out in the occupied territories within the framework of the Jordanian-sponsored five year development plan.

Mr. Davies said his organisation will be willing to launch cooperation with the ministry and will help finance a number of water projects.

Junblatt urges Syria to enter south Beirut

(Continued from page 1) foreign hostages and Mr. Musawi said it had been surrounded and watched by the world's intelligence services.

"All except the Syrians failed to kill its men," he said. "We are

restraining ourselves but if the situation explodes, we will blow up the whole world and its people."

Mr. Musawi condemned Syria's latest security drive in Lebanon. "We don't see what is

U.S. court clears bank

(Continued from page 1) against the Petra Bank's Washington branch left the court with no basis to exercise jurisdiction in the District of Columbia over the non-resident UNEXCO defendants.

The Amman currency dealer had thus been granted a court dismissal.

Last June, UNEXCO had filed a lawsuit seeking \$174 million from First Chicago. In the lawsuit, UNEXCO claims that the bank in Amman had cashed cheques worth \$174 million drawn on UNEXCO's account, without proper authorisation. The currency dealers are claiming that the American bank had cashed cheques that were not signed by authorised signatories in their firm.

Mr. Ali Zo'bi, the Jordanian lawyer representing First Chicago in the Amman case, refused to give any details, but confirmed that UNEXCO had made such claims in the pending case.

Mr. Zo'bi declined comment on the Washington court order but did not rule out an appeal by First Chicago in a New York court, where the bank may try to establish a basis for jurisdiction as the UNEXCO account was in First Chicago's New York branch.

During the Washington court proceedings, and in an effort to keep its cause of action against the Petra Bank alive, First Chicago accused Petra Bank of complicity with UNEXCO by providing "false telexes, (about UNEXCO's creditworthiness) designed to assist in the success of the conspiracy."

The court ruled against the allegation saying "it does not support an inference that either Petra or Petra International was engaged in a scheme to defraud First Chicago."

The Petra Bank telexes provided in response to inquiries by First Chicago stated that the information contained therein was furnished "without guarantees or responsibility," according to the court ruling.

"Such a disclaimer of liability is

sufficient to put a party requesting the information in question on notice that the response should be taken for what it is worth," the court ruling said. "Even if that were not the case," it continued, "the fact that overdrafts of UNEXCO's account occurred prior to the November 1985 credit inquiry, would render reliance upon the second telex unreasonable."

First Chicago's records reveal UNEXCO's overdrafts of some \$8 to \$14 million throughout December 1985.

"Not only would the existence of such overdrafts render the kind of scheme that plaintiff (First Chicago) alleges unnecessary, but by definition, it would make the scheme unworkable," the court statement said.

Based on lack of evidence, the court dismissed allegations that Petra Bank knew that UNEXCO had attempted to corrupt a First Chicago employee by sending a Mercedes car to the employee with responsibility for UNEXCO account.

Nor was there any evidence suggesting that the gift was a bribe, that it was made in furtherance of the alleged kiting scheme, or — most importantly — that it was made with the approval of Petra.

The court concluded that "even if true," First Chicago's allegation "proves nothing."

Based upon the apparent lack of record support for First Chicago's "conspiracy" theory of jurisdiction, Petra Bank "moved to dismiss the complaint against them for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted." The court ruling, signed by Judge Barrington D. Parker, granted the motion.

First Chicago, the tenth largest in the United States, included the UNEXCO overdraft in its non-performing loans. The Jordanian government has said it was not concerned with the whole affair and considered the issue a bank-customer problem.

UNEXCO owners Othman Abu Samra and Jamal Abu Samra were not available for comment on the story.

Swareddahab concludes visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Field Marshal Abdul Rahman Swareddahab, former head of the military council in Sudan, left Amman Monday for home at the end of a visit to Jordan at the invitation of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

During the visit, Marshal Swareddahab was received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and Prince Hassan and met with senior Jordanian officials and toured economic projects and archaeological sites in the Kingdom.

Marshal Swareddahab also underwent a successful heart surgery at the Queen Alia Heart Institute on Feb. 11 performed by a team of Jordanian heart surgeons and cardiologists.

Before leaving Amman, Marshal Swareddahab called on Prince Hassan at the Royal Court and expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the medical care and hospitality accorded to him during his stay in the country.

Upon his departure, Marshal Swareddahab was seen off by Prince Hassan, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Sami Judeh, Sudan's ambassador to Jordan and other Jordanian officials.

Spanish Red Cross ends Jordan visit

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Spanish Red Cross Society, Mr. Leonardo Marin, and the delegation accompanying him Monday left for Madrid at the end of a three-day visit to Jordan.

During the visit Mr. Marin held talks with the chairman of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS), Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, aimed at supporting and strengthening existing cooperation between the two societies.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Marin paid tribute to the humanitarian role played by the JNRCS branches.

Dr. Abu Qoura, who is also the president of the International Red Cross (IRC) Standing Commission, emphasised the JNRCS' keenness to bolster relations with its Spanish counterpart and also hailed the kind of the Spanish Red Cross Society towards issues submitted by the Arab group

U.S. specialist addresses ATF on Reagan's policies

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A U.S. specialist on Iran said Monday that despite the series of crises rocking the present U.S. administration, no clear American policy towards the region has yet emerged.

Dr. Gary Sick, head of the U.S. Ford Foundation's foreign policy programme said that the U.S. administration is as confused about what to do vis-a-vis Iran and Arab Gulf states as ever.

In a lecture he delivered at the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), Dr. Sick said Israel has a determination to keep doors open with Iran, regardless of this country's policy towards the Jewish state.

He said this policy was based on a long-standing belief in Israel that, surrounded by hostile Arab states, peripheral states such as Iran, Turkey and Ethiopia would serve as a distraction for Arab countries.

He told the audience that Israel had three reasons for cultivating relations with Iran: a large Jewish community in Iran; intelligence resources it wants to maintain; and "it is good business."

He explained that one out of every 10 Israelis is involved in the arms industry and that arms amount to 25 per cent of Israel's export revenues.

The U.S. specialist said Tel Aviv still believes that Iran's animosity towards Israel was "an aberration." He said that at least 12 ships called at Eilat in Israel, loaded arms and left for Bandar Abbas in Iran.

Dr. Sick said that the amount of weapons sold to Iran by the United States and Israel is estimated at between \$500 million and \$1 billion, with Israel responsible for the larger share.

Describing the U.S. and Israel's policies towards Iran as "very short-sighted, Dr. Sick said both countries were "playing with fire."

On the effects of the Iran crisis, Dr. Sick said that military equipment provided to Iran, "though were not decisive, had certainly improved Iranian capabilities" in its war with Iraq.

He said that the political effects of the U.S. action was "leading Arab Gulf states to conclude that the U.S. had changed sides." Dr. Sick maintained that "both effects were unintended. Worse even," he added, "they hadn't even thought about these effects."

The third effect of Iran crisis, Dr. Sick said, was the domestic crisis it created in the United States. He said that he expected new sets of revelations to emerge from ongoing investigations throughout the remainder of the year.

He said these revelations would continue its paralyzing effect on the administration's foreign policy, occupying the administration with the domestic scandal.

Dr. Sick answered several questions by the audience following his lecture which was organised by ATF, in cooperation with the Jordan Council on Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Sick, the former National Security Council (NSC) member, is the author of "All Fall Down," a book on U.S. policy towards Iran during the Carter administration.

Jordan to highlight 25 projects to Kuwaiti seminar

KUWAIT (J.T.) — Jordan will submit details on about 25 of its economic projects to a seminar to be held here at the end of this month with the purpose of securing sufficient funds to finance them, according to the under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Mr. Mohammad Al Saqqaf.

He was quoted by the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Siyassah as saying that a special committee has already worked out details on the feasibility studies of 12 of these projects and the rest will be ready by the opening of the seminar

which will be held at the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED).

The projects are in the fields of industry, transport, agriculture and tourism and Arab investors will be encouraged to take part in these projects, Mr. Saqqaf said.

Mr. Saqqaf described the investment climate in the Arab World as being far better than in foreign countries.

In Jordan, we have laws and rules that provide protection to investments, and the country enjoys stability and security, Mr. Saqqaf pointed out.

Crown Prince stresses need to research Jordanian antiquities

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday stressed the need for a comprehensive study of the antiquities of Jordan. Such a study, he said, should involve all humanitarian, economic, social and spiritual aspects throughout the historical ages.

Addressing the organising committee of the 4th International Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan, which held its preparatory meeting Monday, Prince Hassan underscored the importance of promoting public awareness, particularly among students, to develop feelings of national pride and expose them to the civilisation of their grandfathers and great-grandfathers.

Prince Hassan called on all historians and archaeologists to present their findings to citizens in a clear and understandable method.

Prince Hassan also highlighted the importance of cooperation between sociologists and ecologists in order to provide more comprehensive and realistic studies which will be useful to students and decision-makers in their future development plans.

Prince Hassan pointed out that many studies published about the biblical period and its implications for occupied Palestine have been influenced by political considerations and have biased objectives. What archaeology lacks today, Prince Hassan said, is move balanced and objective research. He called for adopting

more scientific method in interpreting archaeological evidence.

Prince Hassan expressed an interest in producing high quality documentaries on the Arab Nabatean culture which once prospered in the south of Bilad Al Sham, and on other ancient cultures of Jordan.

The Crown Prince supported the forming of a committee comprising Jordanian historians, archaeologists and scientists to reconsider accepted interpretations of biblical findings, and to prepare essays in a special volume.

The conference is to be held in the French city of Lyon in 1989 under the title Archaeological Sites and Patterns of Settlements over the ages.

The committee comprises directors of the Department of Antiquities and the Royal National Geographic Centre, the under secretary of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs for archaeological affairs, several directors of antiquities departments from a number of countries, scholars from the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and a number of European, American and Canadian universities in addition to professors from

Lyon University which will host the conference.

Minister of Tourism and Culture Mohammad Al Khatib delivered a speech at the opening of the meeting in which he welcomed the participating delegations and said that the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and the keen interest of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan have made Jordan a forum for scientific conferences in various fields and a cultural bridge which links the world's civilisations.

Mr. Khatib also thanked Prince Hassan for his initiative in holding a series of conferences on the history and antiquities of Jordan, and for his continual personal interest in the success of these conferences.

The minister also extended thanks to the French government, Lyon University, and French members in the conference organising committee for hosting the conference which will coincide with France's celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution.

Mr. Khatib also stressed Jordan's keenness to bolster the good relations which link Jordan with France in various fields, especially in archaeology.

The Department of Antiquities Director General Dr. Adnan Al Hadidi said that, during Monday's meeting, a general secretariat for the conference was formed to coordinate events with Lyon University.

More post offices to handle job applications for CSC

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications has added three more post offices to those already engaged in handling applications for jobs addressed to the Civil Service Commission (CSC). The addition of the three post offices, two in Irbid Governorate and one in Amman, raises the number of these post offices to 27 in different regions of the Kingdom.

According to the Ministry of Communications, the three new additions will start handling applications on Tuesday. The handling of applications by post offices started in the country on Sunday, and the new arrangement was described by the ministry as a move to save effort and time for

members of the public seeking employment in government offices in Jordan.

The Ministry of Communications on Monday announced also that directors of finance departments in the ministry and the Telecommunications Corporation, which is in charge of post offices, have embarked on a study on the prospect of allowing post offices to handle telephone subscription fees.

A ministry statement said that Minister of Communications Muhieddin Al Hussein had earlier requested that such study be conducted so as to save time and effort for the telephone subscribers.

Labour Ministry discusses U.N. volunteer day

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour and Social Development has been notified of a U.N. decision to consider Dec. 5 of every year as the International Day for Volunteers.

During a meeting held at the ministry on Sunday, it was decided that Jordan would observe the day in solidarity with Arab and world countries. Once this is officially approved by the government, Jordan will cancel its annual celebration of social work day on April 5 every year and organise activities for Dec. 5 to encourage social and voluntary work.

King cables condolences

(Continued from page 1)

was not fitted with such a device.

Mr. Moore told parliamentarians that preliminary investigations were already under way and that there would be a full public inquiry under high court Judge Sir Barry Sheen.

Dutch and Belgian salvage workers began the long and tricky task Monday of righting the water-filled wreck of the ferry and recovering 81 bodies believed entombed inside.

Rescue officials said they had reduced their figure for those presumed dead by one after tracing one person listed among the missing.

With this north Belgian port still filled with anxious relatives, the owners of the stricken Herald of Free Enterprise repeated the grim message that it may be several weeks before all the corpses are recovered.

Peter Ford, chairman of Townsend Thoresen, told a news conference their recovery was the top priority.

Belgian authorities have stepped up efforts to recover a cargo of highly toxic chemicals on board the wreck.



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Define racism, please

ADDRESSING the U.N. Commission on Human Rights last week, U.S. Ambassador E. Robert Wallach accused the commission of being "corrupted by considerations of dogma and doctrine." He said that the U.N. standard "must be the willingness to listen objectively to evidence objectively offered." To Mr. Wallach's satisfaction, the commission's criticism of Cuba and Afghanistan met this standard; but not the commission's treatment of the Soviet Union of course. Considering its track record on other people's human rights, one might accuse the United States, rather than the U.N., of being corrupted by dogma and straying from objective standards in examining human rights violations. For, in addition to criticising Cuba and Afghanistan, the commission also severely attacked violations of human rights by U.S. allies.

In a report on torture submitted to the U.N. Commission, Chile, South Africa, El Salvador, and a covert U.S. ally, Iran, were singled out as being particularly offensive in brutalising their citizenry. Earlier, the commission had passed a resolution condemning Israeli occupation of Arab territories and its treatment of the Palestinians. These violations of human rights by American allies do not seem to trouble Ambassador Wallach, for he does not mention them in his address.

In his address, the U.S. ambassador went on to question the credibility of a body that "continues to give even the vitality of empty rhetoric to so obvious a counter-truth as the proposition that Zionism is racism?" But, we might equally question the credibility of a country which continues to ignore human rights violations by one of its staunchest allies — Israel. If Israel's denial of basic human rights to the Palestinian people under its occupation is not racism, then what is? We could ask the distinguished ambassador to offer a definition of racism which excludes the denial of human rights to a group of people because it is a different race from the people in power. He might be hard pressed to do so.

We fully agree with the ambassador's statement that "true peace rests on the pillars of individual freedom, human rights, national self-determination and respect for the rule of law." But we take issue with his and his government's selectivity in advocating these goals. All of these high sounding and admirable principles are now denied to the Palestinian people; yet hardly a word is heard of their plight from the U.S. ambassador or the U.S. government.

Such blatant double-standards do not seem to inhibit Ambassador Wallach from attacking the U.N. Might we suggest to the ambassador and his government the old adage that those who live in glass houses should not throw stones?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Saluting women

THE world on Monday celebrated International Women's Day and Jordan observed this occasion in appreciation of the Jordanian women's contribution to the development of the country. Jordanian women working in the fields, in offices and in schools or surgeries have been offering good service to their countrymen and have been struggling for a long time to win their rights and their present standard in society. But despite the women's efforts, there still is a great deal of work to be done so that they can attain their aspired goals and win their full rights on equal terms with men. Jordanian women who have ventured in almost all fields of work in the country and have even entered factories and lectured at universities, ought to receive more appreciation and more justice for their long and relentless struggle and for their serious endeavours for serving their nation. But to achieve that end and objectives women are really in need of close cooperation and help from men with whom they together can build the country. On this international day we salute Jordanian women on both banks of Jordan and pay special tribute to the Arab women in the occupied Arab lands for their heroic struggle and steadfastness in the face of occupation and Israel's arbitrary rule.

Al Dustour: Rallying behind Iraq

KING Hussein's visit to Baghdad for talks with President Saddam Hussein is part of the on-going consultations between Jordan and Iraq with the purpose of bolstering cooperation between the two countries. The visit lends further support for Iraq in its heroic stand in the face of Iranian aggression on Arab territory. The two leaders shoulder serious responsibility, both trying to fend off external threats and struggling to defend the Arab homeland, rallying Arab countries for the service of the common cause. President Saddam Hussein is continuing to lead his country to success over the invading Iranian forces, and is pursuing all efforts for defending Iraqi land. At the same time, King Hussein is involved in serious efforts designed to unify Arab ranks and pooling Arab resources and potentials in the face of the common challenges, and for stopping Iran's aggression on Iraq and the Arab Nation. We are confident that the Iraqi armed forces will come out victorious in the battlefield, but we need to mobilise all Arab forces behind Iraq to ensure a final victory, and we need to unify our ranks and achieve solidarity among Arab countries to achieve that goal.

Sawt Al Shaab: King continues mobilising Arabs

KING Hussein is relentless in his drive to mobilise Arab countries efforts and resources to attain the aspirations of the Arab Nation. He is carrying out his endeavours on the Arab and international scenes, advocating the cause of solidarity among Arab states and striving to stop Iran's aggression on Iraq and the Arab homeland. The monarch is never tired of attempts designed to bridge the gap between differing Arab countries and is continuing the drive to arrive at a common formula that can ensure continued cooperation among Arab leaders. How can the Arab Nation request help from other nations in its just stand and how can other nations help the Arabs if they themselves cannot reach agreement on unifying their ranks and ending the differences and disputes that have plagued them for a long time? How can the Arab Nation demand support for their struggle against occupation from other world nations when the Arabs themselves are divided and far apart? The enemies of the Arab Nation who continue their acts of aggression on Iraq and other parts of the Arab World have based their strategy on the fact that the Arabs are and will continue to be divided and in this way these enemies continue to attack each Arab country separately.

The view from Second Circle

The full challenge of unemployment

By Rami G. Khouri

UNDERSTANDABLY, there is much discussion and concern in Jordan today about unemployment, which, depending on whom you believe, ranges from three to nine per cent of the labour force, perhaps reaching as high as 50,000 unemployed people. Naturally, as happens with all major problems in the realm, a government committee has been appointed to study the matter, to identify its dimensions and ramifications, and to suggest solutions. For the past several months, a ministerial committee headed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Majali has carried out this task, and has come up with a series of suggested measures to help resolve or at least alleviate the problem.

Some suggested solutions have been leaked to local newspapers in recent weeks, and provide much food for thought. They include extending maternity leave to a full year, having women work part-time, marketing Jordanian labour abroad, asking companies, schools and municipalities to appoint doctors and medical assistants, training more technicians and service engineers to take up jobs now done by foreign workers in Jordan, increasing the capacity of the Vocational Training Corporation's programmes, and emphasising labour-intensive development projects around the country.

The available statistics indicate that we have a labour force of about 500,000 people, of whom 143,000 are non-Jordanians, and about 45,000 are unemployed. It would be easy, in theory, to wipe out the employment problem by sending the foreign workers home, thereby creating job opportunities that Jordanian workers would fill. In practice, it would probably not be so smooth, as Jordanians would not readily apply for some of the menial jobs now done by foreign workers, such as agricultural workers, house maids, construction workers or street cleaners.

The reasons for this are complex, and well beyond the scope of my competence or immediate interest. What does intrigue me, though, is the attitude that seems to dominate the current situation in the country — an attitude that expects the government to step in and, magic-like, solve the unemployment problem. Is this realistic? And is it desirable? Is it fair to expect the government to be so wise and decisive?

When I speak of "the government," I use the term generically, meaning all successive governments that have exercised power in Jordan in recent years, and not any particular prime minister or cabinet. We may compare the Rifai, Obaidat, Badran and Sharaf governments of recent years and choose our own favourites, but this is not what I think is needed. Rather, the unemployment problem and what to do about it should provide an opportunity to discuss and assess slightly deeper issues — issues that relate to the very essence of political and economic power and how it is exercised.

Why should a Jordanian government be able to resolve unemployment if it has been unable to formulate a rational policy on growing

tomatoes and cucumbers in the Jordan Valley, or finding a white paint that would last more than a few months on road surfaces, or generating more than about 15 per cent of budget expenditures from domestic direct taxes? For a decade or so, Jordanian governments have talked about redirecting secondary school graduates into training schemes that would meet the economy's real labour needs, but the progress made in this field has been unspectacular. So why should the government of the day suddenly be able to solve a problem as large as unemployment?

I would suggest that one of our vulnerabilities as a society is the nature of the relationship between the government and the governed. For many decades, Jordanians have looked to the government as the source of all things good and profitable, including education, jobs, security, hefty contracts, medical care, housing, inflation-control, training, and water, to mention only a few. When times were bad, the government was expected to step in and make things right. When times were good, the government was expected to keep a low profile and let the people get on with the business of making money and securing their family's material needs — and if these coincided with the process of building a healthy and durable nation, then all the better; and if they didn't... well, we could attribute that to the peculiarities of how things work in the Holy Land.

Resolving unemployment by artificially keeping productive folk — such as recent secondary school graduates and women — out of the labour force strikes me as superficial at best, and hallucinogenic at worst. Marketing Jordanian workers abroad, at a time when Jordanian workers abroad are starting to return home because of dwindling employment opportunities, seems a peculiar challenge. Providing medical care for people in their offices or colleges would suggest that existing doctors' clinics would receive fewer patients, effectively shifting the centre of gravity of the problem of the over-supply of doctors, rather than alleviating it.

My fear is that the government, having conditioned the people for so long to expect it to come up with the solution to every new challenge, may come up with remedies that do not measure up to the reality of the unemployment problem. It also appears that the committee that has studied the problem has focused on the supply side of the labour equation. It might be more appropriate in the long run to examine how the government could adopt a posture that would increase the demand side of the labour picture, by taking measures that would generate new jobs by stimulating domestic investments and thereby increasing genuine, productive economic activity.

Clearly, the government itself cannot hire more people. a) because it lacks the money to do so, and b) because it is already overstaffed by

people who are largely underworked. Therefore it seems logical that the government should focus instead on taking those measures that would create a natural demand in the economy for more workers in the private sector and semi-public institutions. This attitude can be slightly discerned in the recommendations that have been made public — but only slightly.

If the government wants to consider the unemployment problem in its broadest context, as it should, this would require an overtly political discussion of the process and parameters by which the government and the people of Jordan — the governed and the governing — decide on those collective measures that have to be taken to resolve this or any other problem. If some people will suffer from the resolution of the problem — for example, by having their higher education opportunities curtailed in order to generate more Jordanian technicians and fewer doctors and engineers, or by discouraging women from working in order to hire unemployed men — how will the sacrificing be shared out? According to whose priorities?

I would suggest that this is an opportunity for the government to reverse the trend of the past half a century, and instead of promising the people that it has all the answers to the problems of the day, it should go to the people and ask: What can the government do to promote more productive investments in Jordan, which in turn would generate new jobs? What should the government do to attract Jordanian private money abroad to be brought home for productive investment? What should the government do to give employers the incentive to hire Jordanians, instead of cheaper foreign workers?

These are questions that the government cannot answer by itself. Nor can it impose its own remedies, even if it thinks it has identified the proper ones. The task at hand is not simply the lowering of the unemployment rate — for it seems ludicrous that we should suffer from unemployment after a decade of rapid growth that has seen billions of dinars injected into the national economy. Where did those billions go? Why did they not create jobs for the several tens of thousands of unemployed and educated Jordanians we have to deal with today? Have government policies discouraged productive investment in favour of the consumption of imported goods?

For this, in the end, is what unemployment is all about. Before we ask our women to turn into perpetual baby-producing machines so that they can have endless maternity leaves and thereby stay out of the workforce, or before we pack our bags and go off looking for jobs as clerks or teachers in Abu Dhabi, let's take a moment and hope that those who are charged with devising remedies for unemployment will also have the fortitude and the honesty and the political will to examine the underlying structural causes that have seen a boom decade spawn today's unemployment dilemma.

Reagan tries to change subject but scandal will not die

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — President Reagan hopes his contrite Iran speech and moves toward a superpower arms pact herald political recovery, but political experts predict the scandal will dog him until his term expires in 1989.

Critics say Wednesday night's televised address was misleading and left unanswered several key questions that will bedevil Reagan as congressional committees and a special counsel probe the scandal in the months ahead.

"I don't think Reagan can ever put Iran completely behind him," James Reichley, a presidential watcher at the private Brookings Institution think tank, said in an interview.

George Reedy, who was President Lyndon Johnson's press secretary, said in a newspaper column that Reagan had suffered a "decline and fall" and was "incapable of running the show."

It is quite possible that he will regain much of the public affection that he has lost. But that is a

different thing from the credibility needed to govern," he said.

Reagan, 76, won generally high marks for his speech. He almost apologised for selling arms to Iran and conceded the improper diversion of profits to Nicaraguan contra rebels, which he said he never authorised, "happened on my watch."

He also drew praise for key staff changes, including naming respected Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) director William Webster to replace William Casey as Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) chief.

Casey, who resigned in January with brain cancer, was faulted in the White House-appointed Tower Commission report on the Iran-contra affair.

And Reagan replaced White House chief of staff Donald Regan — assailed in the Tower report for poor management — with Howard Baker, a conciliatory former Tennessee senator.

Reedy predicted Baker would run what amounted to a caretaker operation until a new president

took office in 1989.

But Republicans and some Democrats believe Reagan can now overcome a sharp drop in popularity and launch a political recovery if he scores some substantive accomplishments.

Reagan said he hoped to do just that by forging a superpower pact to slash medium-range nuclear missiles.

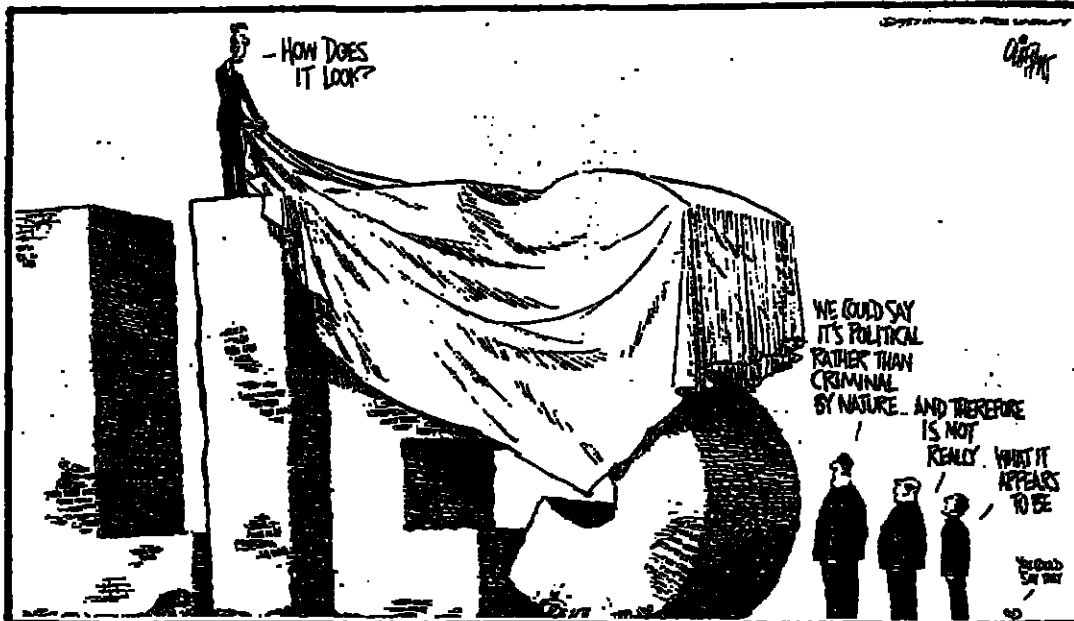
"This is a great moment of hope for all mankind," he said, citing progress in Geneva arms talks.

He announced on Friday he was sending Secretary of State George Shultz to Moscow in April for talks on arms control and a possible third summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

But despite the optimistic agenda, many political analysts doubt Reagan can shift attention from Iran for long.

White House officials are worried that former key Reagan aides, including Oliver North, may face criminal trials that could drag on for months.

North's White House secret-



ary, Fawn Hall, has testified she helped him destroy key documents and alter memos.

Critics say Reagan's speech left begging key Tower report questions which are likely to come

back to haunt him.

Reagan did not mention evidence that his top aides had orchestrated a private network to help the contras at a time Congress had barred all military aid, direct or indirect.

The Tower report quoted a memo by North, a coordinator of the aid, which said: "The president obviously knows why he has been meeting with several select people to thank them for their support for democracy" in Central America.

Congressional investigators are expected to probe Reagan's knowledge of the private aid scheme.

Reagan said he had lost credibility by being silent on the Iran affair. He said he had been waiting for the Tower report and wanted to avoid giving sketchy or inaccurate information.

In fact, he has not been silent. Reagan said initially last November there was "no foundation" to reports of an Iran arms deal and consistently denied there had been a trade of weapons for U.S. hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iran groups.

Reagan admitted in his speech the Iran affair deteriorated into an arms-for-hostages deal. But he said such a deal "runs counter to my own beliefs," suggesting the trade stemmed from neglect on his part, not from a conscious presidential policy.

"I asked so many questions about the hostages' welfare that I didn't ask enough about the specifics of the total Iran plan,"

Reagan said.

But the Tower report said an arms-for-hostages trade was basic to the operation and Reagan had a clear idea of the role arms played. It quoted an entry from his diary, dated Jan. 17, 1986: "I agreed to sell toys (anti-tank weapons) to Iran."

The report cited evidence Reagan was well aware of risks and objections to the plan but went ahead anyway.

It quoted a memo on a meeting with Reagan by CIA chief Casey: "I suspect he would be willing to take the heat in the future, if this will lead to springing the hostages."

The report said Shultz and defence secretary Casper Weinberger argued against the trade, saying it breached U.S. anti-terror policy and invited new hostage taking.

Former national security adviser Robert McFarlane told the Tower commission he reminded Reagan of Shultz's and Weinberger's objections "and (the president) said: Yes, I understand how they feel, but I want to go ahead with this."

Shultz and Weinberger have sharply rejected criticisms they did not raise sufficiently forceful objections.

Weinberger told reporters on Thursday: "I presented many, many times to the president all of the arguments that I could think of, as did George Shultz, both together and separately, as to why this shouldn't be done. You run out of appeals after a time."

British Labour Party agonising over future and fears of defeat

By Brian Mooney
Reuters

LONDON — Britain's Labour Party, just months off an election it hopes will sweep it back to power after nearly eight years in opposition to Margaret Thatcher, is agonising over the future.

There are signs that some in the party are seriously worried about its chances in the election Mrs. Thatcher is expected to call this year.

A letter from party leader Neil Kinnock's office has warned that Labour's own left wing is damaging the cause while Britain's main left wing intellectual journal, the New Statesman, has printed an edition devoted almost exclusively to the single theme: "Does Socialism have a future?"

Introducing the edition, New Statesman's editor John Lloyd said: "The fundamental problem is that Labor has lacked a clear reason for being in business, and that lack has grown steadily more urgent over the past decade."

The question he posed is indirectly targeted at Kinnock. He took over the leadership of his split party after it suffered its worst electoral defeat in 40 years and tried to forge a new unity. He had some measure of success, but if he fails to beat Thatcher few expect him to survive.

The letter was prompted by Labour's defeat in a parliamentary by-election in the London Thameside Borough of Greenwich where its leftist candidate Deirdre Wood lost the seat the party had held continuously since 1945. Wood was trounced by Rosie Barnes of the centrist Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance.

The letter from Kinnock's office spelled out what many activists and members of parliament had been saying in private

for months — Labour's left wing militants were losing it votes.

"The loony left is taking its toll, the gays and lesbians issues is costing us dear amongst the pensioners, and fear of extremism and higher taxes is particularly prominent in the (London) area," Kinnock's press secretary Patricia Hewitt wrote.

The letter was addressed to member of parliament Frank Dobson, who managed the Labour campaign in Greenwich. Wood's radical views — including leanings towards the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA), and opposition to NATO served up her opponents with deadly ammunition.

Wood is typical of many Labour candidates in London where the party's local councils are attacked for charging high taxes and supporting causes that are ridiculed by Tory opponents as madcap and lunatic.

Opponents cite examples of money spent promoting homosexual rights and of teachers in labour-controlled boroughs banning the nursery rhyme "Baa-Baa Black Sheep" on the grounds that it is racist.

Throughout London, militant activists have ensured that their people are selected to contest parliamentary seats.

"It's obvious from our own polling, as well as from the dole-queue, that the 'London effect' is now very noticeable. I think there are many in the London party who still believe they are doing well. They need to be disabused," Hewitt said.

In the wake of Wood's defeat, moderate Labour members of parliament warned that a similar fate awaited other like-minded candidates in the general election.

Kinnock reacted in public by

blaming Wood's defeat on what he called a smear campaign by the pro-Tory press which had delved into the 44-year-old candidate's family and private life.

Few Labour supporters accepted this as a wholly satisfactory explanation. Hewitt's letter — which she stood by after it was leaked to the press — appeared to back their suspicions.

Opinion polls indicate that support for lesbian and homosexual minority groups, a favourite Labour cause, has started to backfire on the party because of a massive government propaganda campaign warning of the dangers of AIDS.

Although it momentarily discomfited Kinnock, the letter was just one more element in a wider debate about the failure of the Labour Party and the left to halt Thatcher and the rise of the so-called "new right" in Britain.

The left is asking how it is that Socialists who used to say that capitalism was finished are now being pronounced dead by the capitalists.

Labour's deputy leader Roy Hattersley opened the 26-page examination of Socialism in the New Statesman by acknowledging that the conservatives had been allowed to seize the initiative.

"The true purpose of democratic Socialism is the protection and extension of individual liberty. Yet, for years, Labour has allowed itself to be caricatured as the party of bureaucracy, regulation and control," Hattersley said.

"We have only ourselves to blame," he said, adding that as a result Thatcher had become the "angel of liberty."

"British Socialists have lacked the intellectual confidence to assault and to destroy the theory



Neil Kinnock

that freedom is not more than the absence of restraint," Hattersley said.

His argument was echoed in the Labour Party's own weekly newspaper, Tribune, which said: "The Labour Party simply does not project a clear image of a party that knows what is wrong and what needs to be done. The Tories do."

The New Statesman challenged many of Labour's traditional stances. It laid new stress on markets and sought to move the party away from the "redundant" theory of state control.

Contributors suggested full British membership of the European monetary system (EMS) and even questioned the validity of trade unions — traditional supporters of the Labour Party — if their aims can be achieved by other and better means.

Looking forward to the election, Tribune concluded: "Labour's task in 1987 is massive — difficult, but no impossible."

LETTERS

Constructive reporting

To the Editor:

I read with great interest Ms. Sana Atiyeh's report on blood banks (Jordan Times, Feb. 22).

It was such an excellent article. I was actually amazed to see such a report appear in our local newspapers. I think that constructive criticism is a good thing, and it encourages people and government departments to improve their services. It would be a major step forward. Why should we wait until lives are lost before something is done to safeguard the public?

I do hope we see more articles of this calibre in the Jordan Times; they are definitely needed.

M.R. Subeihat
Amman



UNRWA convoys enter Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila

AFTER long negotiations in Beirut and Damascus, several convoys turned back and one convoy immobilised by gunfire, UNRWA has finally been able to bring food to besieged refugees in Beirut. On Feb. 25, two UNRWA trucks carrying medical supplies, 12 tons of flour and four tons of powdered milk entered Bourj Al Barajneh camp in Beirut. On Feb. 27, two trucks with 16 tons of flour and

four tons of skim milk powder were able to get into Shatila camp. The two camps have been under siege since November 1986. Despite repeated attempts to enter Rashidieh camp, near Tyre, which has been under siege since last September, UNRWA has still been unable to get supplies to the besieged residents of the camp. A second convoy was able to enter Bourj Al Barajneh on March 2. UNRWA

has also been distributing food on behalf of the World Food Programme to needy Lebanese in both Beirut and Tyre areas. (Left) Bulldozers had to clear the way for UNRWA trucks to enter Shatila and photography ended at the entrance of the camp, and, (right) supplies unloaded at Bourj Al Barajneh.

Turkish agriculture faces need for new markets

By Paul Holding
Reuter

ANKARA — Turkey's farmers will have to find new markets for their produce as self-sufficiency in food turns into surpluses over the next 30 years, economists and agriculture officials say.

Agriculture is by far the largest single industry in the country of 51 million people. It employs more than half the workforce, accounts for 18 per cent of the economy and provides nearly 30 per cent of exports.

The prospect of a continuing steady increase in production as new seed varieties are used and a vast area of the arid southeast is brought under irrigation means more customers must be found.

Protectionism in the West and competition in other markets from European and North American producers, some of which give low-interest credit, are already making life difficult for the farmers.

The way to the future is pointed by a major deal starting this year under which Turkey will boost exports to the Soviet Union, especially of food products, in return for Siberian natural gas, said Nazmi Demir, deputy under-secretary at the agriculture ministry.

"Turkey should be a little bit flexible on credit, bartering maybe to some extent. People want food but they do not have the money," he told Reuters.

"The Soviet deal, which is like barter, should be followed up if we want to increase our market share in neighbouring countries. Otherwise, sooner or later, Turkey will be in overproduction."

Demir said Turkey had a lot to offer, especially to the European Community (EC) which it plans to apply to join this year. "We are making an effort to have the right varieties and standards for the European consumer," he said.

Although Turkey is a net importer of wheat and vegetable oil, it is a net exporter of a vast range of other foodstuffs and is one of

only seven or eight countries in the world which can feed themselves, officials said.

A wide range of climates makes this possible. The land along the sunny and Mediterranean coasts is planted with fruit and vegetables or cotton.

The dusty plains of central Anatolia are covered in wheat and barley, thrice in the west grows yellow with sunflowers and the slopes of the rainy eastern Black Sea coast are green with the tea bushes which supply Turks with their national drink.

Last year's wheat harvest was a record 19 million tonnes, according to the ministry, partly thanks to imported seed from the Soviet Union, though Demir acknowledged the difficulty of estimating since there was no organised system of reporting.

Farms in Turkey are mainly family-owned, with people scratching a living on their own land and selling either to merchants or to cooperatives which administer a state price support system for main crops.

Farmworkers are among the poorest people in a country with a national per capita income of just over \$1,000 a year.

"The family provides the labour. They work long hours on low incomes. They exploit themselves," said Ali Arslan Gurban, professor of economics at Ankara's Middle East Technical University.

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal says he plans a major reform of agriculture and, although aides refused to give details, land reform appears likely to be a major element.

The government's 1987 economic programme said there was a need for a change in the system under which farmland is broken up into ever smaller areas as sons inherit from their father.

A major project now under way to irrigate 1.7 million hectares of southeast Turkey by the year 2010 with water from the Euphrates and Tigris rivers has the potential to make the country a major food producer.

How temp is a temp worker?

There are more and more temporary and part-time workers in the U.K.'s labour force, and this is causing confusion and change on many fronts, says Charles Leadbeater.

LONDON — A transformation is taking place in the shape of the U.K. workforce. The predominance of secure full-time jobs is giving way under pressure of high unemployment, weakened trade unions, rising female employment and removal of labour market restrictions, yielding a fluid mixture, which includes temporary workers and those who work part-time, at home or for themselves.

By 1985, one in three of those in employment were flexible workers. According to national estimates published in early-February by the Department of Employment, numbers of flexible workers rose by 16 per cent to 8.1 million between 1981 and 1985 while the permanent total fell by 6 per cent to 15.6 million.

Underlying the figures is a fundamental shift in employment patterns over the past few years; some firms which survived the recession by shedding full-time workers are now returning to growth by taking on temporary or part-time workers.

A recent study of future employment trends by the University of Warwick suggests that the number in full-time employment will fall by a further 1 million over the next four years, while the flexible category will rise by 900,000.

The shift has created a new tension in the labour market and a challenge for policy makers, companies and trade unions.

As the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development put it in a report last year: "Both security and flexibility are desirable. The practical question is how one can strike a balance between acceptable job security and necessary labour market flexibility."

Employers have traditionally used flexible workers to cover special events or seasonal fluctuations in demand. But studies by the Institute of Manpower Studies show that, since the recession, many companies have taken a fresh approach.

The use of flexible workers enables employers to save on non-wage costs such as sick pay, holiday pay and pensions. For instance, at Excel Wound Components in Essex, which operates a temporary employment register with the co-operation of the electronics union EETPU, temporary workers do not qualify for incentive bonuses, holiday pay or pensions.

Another advantage is that the labour supply can be more finely matched to demand from customers. Barclays Bank and WH Smith, the retailers, are among companies which use part-timers to cover busy periods during the day.

Operating with a flexible fringe of workers can also benefit full-time permanent employees. Unions at GR Stein Refractories in Yorkshire and Scotland, have agreed to the introduction of temporary workers as long as they are the first to be laid off during a downturn.

Mr. Alec Kokinis, the company's personnel director, says: "We operate in an export market with tight delivery times and a variable flow of work. Using more temporary workers has made us more efficient and more responsive. There really was no alternative to this kind of arrangement."

Flexible employment can also benefit those involved. For exam-

ple, computer programmers and skilled building craftsmen — as contract workers — can exploit skill shortages in their industries. Some women workers may also prefer flexible hours which fit in better with commitments at home.

But the growth of labour flexibility has also brought insecurity for the workers concerned.

Mr. Guy standing, labour market analyst at the International Labour Organisation, says that flexible workers often go without the kind of employment security workers commonly enjoyed in the 1970s, as well as lacking non-wage benefits. "Taken together, this loss of employment security and 'welfare' security means that many of the flexible jobs, created in the last few years, do not come with the prospect of continuity of income."

Pressure for change in the position of the flexible workforce is coming from trade unions. Usdaw (shopworkers) and Nupe (public sector) have long organised part-timers, but they have recently been joined by the big battalions keen on getting a foothold in this growth area.

The most impressive initiative has come from the Transport and General Workers' Union, the largest U.K. union, which has launched a national campaign to recruit temporary workers. The union plans to renegotiate agreements to win *pro rata* benefits for flexible workers compared with full-timers. "A new employment pattern is emerging. We either accommodate it or we suffer by it," says Mr. Bill Morris, deputy general secretary.

But perhaps the most novel idea has come from the National Union of Seamen. It is considering establishing a union-administered employment agency to compete with the private manning agencies supplying crews to foreign-registered ships.

Yet, while interest in organising peripheral workers is growing, the unions will have to overcome substantial obstacles.

The decision to organise temporary workers has implications for the unions' wider approach to economic and social policy. Can they still be a major force arguing for full employment with permanent jobs while exploiting the shift in working patterns?

They will have to balance the investment of effort in recruiting flexible workers against the claims of members with permanent jobs.

The former group's hours can easily be varied, so they are often used to absorb shocks and thereby protect established workers. There may be a conflict between maintaining the security of the core and winning greater security for the periphery.

More than 60 per cent of flexible workers are female, according to Department of Employment figures. While the number of full-time women workers grew by 55,000 between 1983 and 1985 to 4.8 million, they were for the first time outnumbered by female flexible workers at 5 million.

Proving that women workers have something to gain from male-dominated trade unions will require novel moves. "For unions to fully recognise that flexible work is essentially to do with women's work will mean taking up issues such as the provision of child care facilities and women's rights to return to work after having a child — not the tradi-

tional bread and butter of union work," says Ms. Tess Woodcraft, of the National Association of Local Government Officers (NALGO).

But there is a limit to how much collective bargaining can achieve without a supportive legal framework and unions are campaigning for a new approach to employment law. Labour law has traditionally categorised workers as either employees or self-employed, with the latter almost excluded.

More than 60 per cent of flexible workers are female, according to Department of Employment figures. While the number of full-time women workers grew by 55,000 between 1983 and 1985 to 4.8 million, they were for the first time outnumbered by female flexible workers at 5 million.

"That this was the correct priority for labour law in the 1960s was unquestioned. But now there is no enormous grey area in the labour market. Most flexible workers are clearly not self-employed; they are economically dependent on an employer. But they are not legally defined as employees," says Mr. Robert Simpson, lecturer in labour law at the London School of Economics.

Recent case law has added to the confusion. An industrial tribunal in 1983 ruled that a regular casual waiter who had worked solely for Trusthouse Forte for a long period, always attending for duty when summoned, was considered self-employed. The following year, the Court of Appeal recognised the economic and social dependence of garment homeworkers on an employer.

Some companies, such as KP

Foods, have been able to combine flexibility with security. In 1980, the company halted recruitment of staff to work a 40-hour week. Only 15 per cent of the 5,500 production workers now work full-time, the majority work about 25 hours a week.

The company negotiated the changes in the wake of a large investment. Mr. Brian Parish, industrial relations manager, describes the benefits: "Machinery downtime has been cut, labour productivity is up, absenteeism is down and we have cut back on expensive overtime payments."

Part-timers get *pro rata* rates of pay, sick pay, holiday pay and pension entitlements. "Most importantly, while redundancy is a threat in the late seventies, it is not something that comes into our minds now," says Mr. Parish.

However, many employers are likely to fear that union bargaining will lead to higher costs. "Jobs in the periphery probably need to become more attractive to employees in terms of stability, pay, benefits and prospects. But any moves in that direction are likely, by definition, to make them less attractive to employers," says Mr. Chris Curson, personnel manager of the South-Eastern Electricity Board.

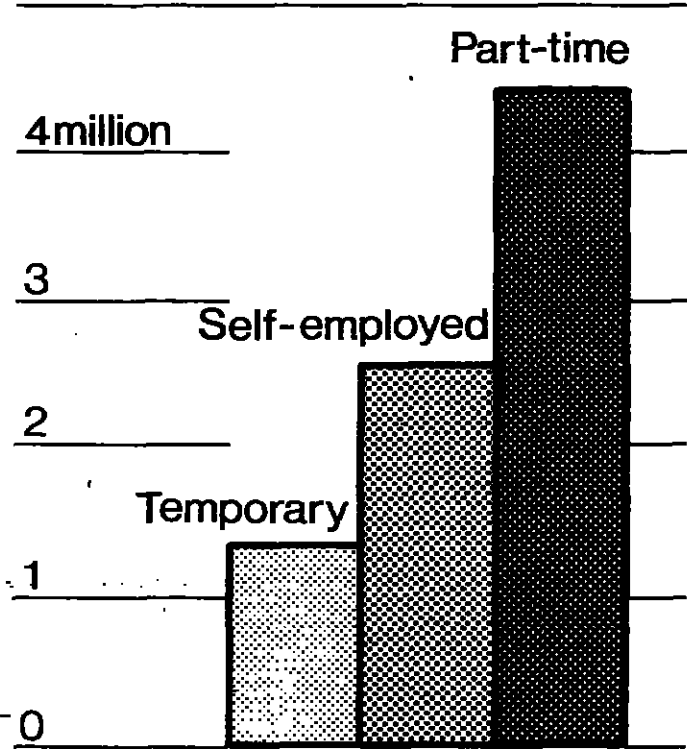
This points up the central conflict in the debate about flexible workers: the marginal value of flexible workers to companies may not match an acceptable standard of living.

One solution might be to raise marginal workers' productivity through training. But few companies believe they have an obligation to train occasional workers.

A possible way forward might be to organise temporary workers not through trade unions, but through a commercial collective, a kind of employment agency, which has an interest in improving their earnings. The temporary worker agency, Manpower U.K., for instance, trains secretaries to use data processors,

FLEXIBLE WORKERS

1985 Total 8.1m



keeping pace with changing technology to update their skills.

If the shift to flexible employment is permanent, employers may not be able to ignore training. "We are worried that with half the 1 million workers in the building industry self-employed, they may not invest enough in retraining. The skills stock of the industry may well fall as a result," says Mr. John Turner, past president of the Building Employers' Confederation, which is exploring ways to increase training for the self-employed.

Trade unions argue that there should be a statutory minimum wage, a policy adopted last year by the Trades Union Congress (TUC). Others argue that, with flexible workers moving in and out of employment, the focus should be on the provision of a minimum income through a mix of wages and social security pay-

ments. The Basic Income Research Group, a U.K.-based lobby group, which claims cross-party support throughout Europe, argues that the variability of wages faced by peripheral workers should be overcome by paying all citizens a basic income or social dividend.

Although it may be unfamiliar territory for companies, they will be drawn into the debate over these charges through the industrial activities of the unions and through social concerns prompted by the shift in the workforce.

Sir Adrian Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes, says: "While flexibility is attractive for both employers and many employees, we have to be careful that we are not creating a major division in society between insiders and outsiders" — Financial Times feature.

Physicist offers new theory on superconductivity

By Warren E. Leary
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Nobel Prize-winning physicist is proposing a radically different theory that he says explains the workings of the new materials that have revolutionised research into superconductivity of electricity. Dr. Philip W. Anderson of Princeton University said researchers have developed new superconducting materials that transport electrical current with no resistance without knowing exactly how they work.

"I'm proposing a fairly radical new mechanism for the same old superconductivity," Anderson said in a telephone interview last Thursday. "It's a matter of the theory catching up with the compounds made in the laboratory."

A paper outlining the theory was to be published in last Friday's issue of the journal Science. Superconductivity is a phenomenon by which electricity goes through a material with great efficiency and no energy losses from resistance. The condition occurs when materials are cooled to very low temperatures and molecular motion slows down.

If the process can be controlled

and the right materials developed, superconductivity offers the promise of cheaper electrical power, faster and more efficient electronics and powerful magnets that can be used for everything from levitating high-speed trains to new generations of atom smashers.

Many traditional materials become superconducting when kept close to absolute zero, or -459.7 degrees Fahrenheit (-273 C), the temperature at which the normal motion of molecules ceases.

Scientists for decades have experimented with new materials and techniques in attempts to raise the temperature where superconductivity occurs so that cheaper and easier-to-handle coils could be used for practical applications.

Last month, Paul C.W. Chu at the University of Houston and M. K. Wu at the University of Alabama announced they had achieved superconductivity at -283 degrees F (-175 C) using a new metal oxide material.

And researchers at the University of California in San Francisco said this week that they independently had achieved a breakthrough using a material similar, if not identical, to that formulated by Chu.

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Mecir shocks Lendl to win Int'l Players Championship

KEY BISCAVNE, Florida (AP) — Miloslav Mecir shocked top-ranked Ivan Lendl 7-5, 6-2, 7-5 to win the International Players Championship in a complete turnaround from Lendl's one-sided U.S. Open victory.

The soft-spoken, soft-hitting Mecir took full advantage of an uncharacteristic number of errors by the world's no. 1 player. In five of Mecir's six service breaks, Lendl double-faulted at least once. He finished with seven double faults and four aces, while hitting just 43 per cent of his first serves.

"Today I played much better and had much better confidence," said Mecir, who like Lendl is Czech but unlike Lendl lives in his home country when not on the tour. "I tried not to miss many balls and I tried to hit the right shots to come in on."

In the long 11th game of the third set, Mecir typified his ability to get to any shot with a diving forehand that curled around the net judge as he won the crucial point in the match.

The 2-hour, 35-minute match offered a contrast between two styles of play and behaviour. Lendl complained about line calls, a malfunctioning sound system and towels on the court, and he hit the ball like he was mad at

it. Mecir is a model of composure who swings so smoothly he almost seems scared to hurt the ball.

Mecir, who lost 6-4, 6-2, 6-0 to Lendl in the U.S. Open finals last year, broke Lendl's serve in the first game. Lendl did his part by double-faulting on the final point.

The ninth-seeded Mecir made up for losing his own serve in the eighth game of the set by breaking Lendl at love in the 11th, with the help of two double faults.

One Lendl double fault per game contributing to service breaks by Mecir in the first and fifth games of the second set. Meanwhile, Mecir was cruising on his own service game, never allowing Lendl a break point in the set.

Lendl tested Mecir's composure with a service break in the second game of the third set, but Mecir came back to break Lendl's serve in the seventh and 11th game. Lendl hit a backhand wide

to end it on Mecir's third match point.

Lendl said Mecir's knack for returning everything Lendl hit at him wasn't what caused the problems. Lendl hasn't won an event this year, having only played in the Australian, where he lost in the semifinals to Pat Cash.

Mecir, who already has won in Auckland and Sydney this year, earned \$112,500 Sunday. Lendl, who last lost in straight sets to Boris Becker at Wimbledon last year, pocketed \$56,250.

Lendl reached the final with a gruelling 4-hour, 42-minute semi-final victory over Jimmy Connors covering two days because of rain delays. Mecir, meanwhile, had an easy last step to the final, winning when Yannick Noah defaulted early in the second set because of a shoulder problem.

In the women's doubles final Sunday, Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver beat Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany and Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia 6-3, 7-6.

In the men's doubles final Saturday, American Paul Annacone and South African Christo Van Rensburg topped the U.S. Davis Cup doubles team of Ken Flach and Robert Seguso 6-2, 6-4, 7-4.



SUCCESSFUL FENCING: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday presented the Jordanian fencing team with awards, in appreciation for their performance during the Arab Fencing Championship, which was recently held in Alexandria, Egypt. Jordan won the gold medal in individual competition, and took the bronze medal in the team competition (Petra photo).

Favoured Foster crashes out of final in hurdles

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — Greg Foster, seemingly invincible over hurdles this season, desperately wanted to win a gold medal at the first world indoor athletics championships.

But he may have been too desperate.

The 28-year-old American's dream of completing his golden set — he won the inaugural outdoor hurdles title over 110 metres in Helsinki four years ago — began to crumble as he rose to attack the second barrier in Sunday's final.

Already trailing Canadian arch-rival Mark McKoy by half a metre, Foster clipped the hurdle and lost his line and silky-smooth rhythm upon landing.

He barely had time to recover before he was rising again to meet the third obstacle. A split second later, he and McKoy were in a heap in the centre of the track, upended hurdles scattered around them like the twisted

wreckage of a train crash.

"To be honest with you, I don't have the slightest idea what happened," Foster said after being escorted from the arena by medical staff and taken to his hotel room.

"We kind of drifted together. I do remember going into his lane but my main concern was that I wasn't using the left side of my body."

"I may have tried to make my move sooner than I normally do. I came off the second hurdle a bit quicker than usual. I normally try to make my move off the third hurdle."

After setting a world record 7.46 seconds in the semifinals, Foster, the Olympic silver-medalist, was a red-hot favourite to triumph Sunday.

Foster's compatriot, Tomie Campbell, who emerged from the debris to clinch the gold in 7.51 seconds, said: "I have never seen a crash like that in my life."

Karpov, Sokolov adjourn

LINARES, Spain (AP) — The sixth game in the candidates final for the world chess championship between Anatoly Karpov and Andrei Sokolov was adjourned for a second time, in a position where experts said Karpov had good chances to win.

The score in the 14-game match was 3-2 after five games and a win would give Karpov a

dominating two-point lead.

Soviet grandmaster Tamas Georgadze, commenting on the adjourned position said "now I think Karpov will win the game."

For full six hours of play Sunday, Karpov gradually and relentlessly increased his endgame advantage.

In the adjourned position both sides have only one pawn each. Karpov, playing white, has a rook, knight and bishop, while Sokolov has two rooks.

Most experts said Karpov has good chances of surrounding the remaining black pawn, capturing it and forcing Sokolov to give up material to halt the advance.

It was very rare in world championship matches for a game to be adjourned for a second time after a total of eleven hours play, but this marathon encounter may last several more hours when play restarts.

"This was one of the most exhausting games in recent title matches," commented Spanish chess expert Leoncio Garcia.

Taking a 450-km walk for charity

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Taking a walk from Ramtha to Aqaba may not be a thought to cross too many people's minds. However, it has crossed the minds of at least two people who want to raise money for a good cause.

Vicken Dakessian and Ali Pharaon are organising a sponsored walk across the Kingdom with all proceeds going to the Society for Care of Neurological Patients. "We wanted to raise money in an original way," said Dakessian, "and no one has attempted to walk from the furthest point north (Ramtha) to the furthest point south (Aqaba) in the Kingdom."

The journey which will begin on April 1, will last for ten days, covering 450 kilometres. "We hope to raise JD 50,000 to establish a charity fund for neurological patients at Palestine Hospital," said Her Royal Highness Princess Majeeda at a press conference Monday. Princess Majeeda, head of the society said this is the first fund-raiser since the society was initiated, in July last year.

The Society was established under the honorary chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The objective of the society is to carry out charity work and to rehabilitate nerve-

damaged patients in the Kingdom.

Dr. Nassi Khoury, a neurologist at Palestine Hospital in Amman said "nerve diseases caused by head and spine injuries have not received enough attention in Jordan." To date, six patients have been treated, added Dr. Khoury.

Plans are underway between Palestine Hospital and two of the largest centres for neurology, Toronto University and John Hopkins University to bring specialists to treat and train local doctors in Jordan, said Mrs. Nadia Al-Almi, secretary of the society who also spoke at the press conference held at the Plaza Hotel.

Presently all the work of the society is financed by the annual membership fees of JD 15 and donations. The society is aiming to raise JD 150,000 by the end of this year to expand and serve more citizens, said Princess Majeeda.

Reem Najjar, in charge of public relations for the walk, told reporters that the 450 kilometres are divided into three stages: Ramtha/Plaza Hotel in Amman; Plaza Hotel/Alia Gateway Hotel; Alia Gateway Hotel/Aqaba Tourist Hotel.

"People are encouraged to join at any of the stages," said Najjar.

There are two sponsorship forms available. The first form, for the entire distance (450 kilometres) is to be used by those who wish to collect sponsorships, but are not necessarily participating in the walk. The second form, for sponsoring the Amman stage (40 kilometres), is to be used by the participants.

Rafic Hamareh, a coordinator for the walk, shed more light on the Amman stage, which he expects to attract the most people. He said the walk will start on April 3 at 9:00 a.m. from the Plaza Hotel in Shmeisani. The route will take the participants to the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th circles, and will end at Alia Gateway Hotel, covering a distance of 40 kilometres.

Twenty to thirty groups, consisting of five to 15 participants, have already expressed their desire to participate in the Amman stage, Hamareh continued. To avoid congestion on the roads, each group will leave the Plaza Hotel in intervals of a few minutes. The police have been notified and will be present to ensure the safety of the walkers.

The sponsored walk has been "adopted" by the Housing Bank, Plaza Hotel, Royal Jordanian Airlines, Jordan Television news department and the University of Science and Technology.

Beckenbauer names Schumacher's successor on West German team

BONN (R) — West German national soccer manager Franz Beckenbauer named a new captain and goalkeeper to replace the disgraced Harald "Toni" Schumacher as his squad gathered for a three-day training session.

Beckenbauer said Schumacher's Cologne club colleague Klaus Allofs would take over as captain at least until the European Championship in West Germany next year and that the goalkeeper would be Stuttgart's Eike Immel.

Schumacher was permanently banned from the team on Friday by the national soccer federation (DFB) after the publication of his controversial autobiography in which he insulted colleagues and officials and alleged that many players took dope.

Schumacher, who played in the last two World Cup finals and had been a regular in the national

team for seven years, is also leaving Cologne at the end of the season.

Striker Allofs, who makes his 50th appearance for West Germany in a friendly with Israel on March 25 in Tel Aviv, said the squad would discuss Schumacher's allegations during training in Kaiserau near Dortmund.

Midfielder Lothar Matthaus was named as team vice-captain.

Immel, who was in the squad for the last two World Cup finals but has won only five caps to date, gets his chance because of disciplinary action against the country's two top keepers.

Hamburg's Uli Stein was sent home during last year's Mexico finals for publicly criticising Beckenbauer and team colleagues and, though he has said he would like to return, the manager said he would not be considered in future.

Pakistan was 176 for six in the first innings after winning the toss before Ejaz Fakih rescued his team with a brilliant 105.

Fakih, who arrived from Pakistan 12 hours before the start of the test, won the Man of the Match award for his sterling performance.

India too was in trouble at 247 for six replying to Pakistan's 393 all out, but Dilip Vengsarkar's 15th test century and a breezy 50 from skipper Kapil Dev thwarted the Pakistani bowlers.

Pakistan began the final day at 25 for no loss in the second innings and plodded along the entire day to reach 136 for two in 99 overs.

England faces struggle

ZURICH (R) — English soccer officials will press for their clubs to be readmitted to European competitions, less than two years after a riot by Liverpool supporters caused the deaths of 39 people in the Heysel Stadium, Brussels.

In Berne the European Football Union (UEFA) will be presented with a dossier outlining England's case for an end next season to the indefinite ban imposed after the fateful Liverpool-Juventus European Cup final in May 1985.

"We are hoping some clubs will be allowed back next season," English Football Association (FA) secretary Ted Crocker told Reuters.

Although UEFA officials declined to predict the outcome of the meeting, their initial reluctance to include the ban on the agenda and UEFA President Jacques Georges's known opposition to the readmission of English clubs at this point suggest an uphill struggle for the officials from London.

Barcelona suffers from goal famine

LONDON (R) — Barcelona has stumbled in the face of a goal famine as it attempts to sustain its quest for honours at European and domestic level.

The Catalans failed to score for the fourth consecutive match Sunday, losing 2-0 at Real Zaragoza and allowing arch rival Real Madrid to seize the lead in the Spanish First Division.

Real, also chasing a title double, swiftly shrugged off any effects from its 4-2 defeat at Red Star Belgrade in the first leg of the European Cup quarter-final by beating Sevilla 2-1 to take a one-point league lead.

Barcelona's goalless sequence started with a 0-0 draw with Las Palmas and continued when it was beaten 4-0 by Sporting Gijon and 1-0 at Dundee United, in the UEFA Cup last Wednesday.

Terry Venables, Barcelona's English manager, whose title

ambitions have been fired by compatriot Gary Lineker's hitherto irresistible form, responded to Sunday's setback by saying: "Nothing is lost. The goals will come."

Barcelona Vice-President Nicolau Cassaus was more candid. "The defeat comes at a crucial moment but we would be idiots if we lost our heads now," he said.

Champion Real has returned to the top to a mixed press reaction. There was praise for the individual qualities of such players as Hugo Sanchez, the league's top scorer, but some dissatisfaction with coach Leo Beenhakker.

"There are still gaping holes in Real's defence, and this may be due to Beenhakker's indecision over which defence tactics to employ," a sports columnist said.

Napoli enhanced its Italian

League title challenge by beating Atalanta 1-0 to open a five-point lead at the top, but the leader's captain, Diego Maradona, is still resisting any talk of celebrations.

Napoli's victory was its seventh consecutive away win of the season, but Argentine World Cup-winning skipper Maradona said: "At the moment we don't want to talk at all about the shield. For now we're just taking things match by match."

Maradona's caution may be influenced by the fact his club faces a difficult three-week spell during which it plays Roma, Internazionale and Juventus — second, fifth and third respectively.

Roma is likely to be without Polish striker Zbigniew Boniek against Napoli next Sunday. He is expected to be suspended for one match after being sent off for arguing with the referee during Roma's 1-0 win over Torino Sunday.

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Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420
NO SMALL AFFAIR
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625153
FALLING IN LOVE
Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573
WORLD MUST BE CRAZY
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420
HEARTBURN
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198
MY LUCKY STARS
Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Monday.

One sterling	1.5918/28	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3358/28	Canadian dollar
	1.8505/15	West German marks
	2.0905/15	Dutch guilders
	1.5608/18	Swiss francs
	38.32/35	Belgian francs
	6.1575/1625	French francs
	1315/1316	Italian lire
	153.89/90	Japanese yen
	6.4575/4625	Swedish crowns
	6.9425/75	Norwegian crowns
	6.9540/90	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	405.20/405.70	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities were lower in late fairly thin trading with the early 30-point fall on Wall Street unsettling the market and pulling prices sharply down, dealers said.

Shares traded easier throughout the morning due to technical factors and a lack of interest. But some issues moved above their lows around midday, after the Bank of England signalled its willingness to see a cut of at least 1/2 point in U.K. clearing bank base leading rates with a similar cut in its own money market intervention rates.

At 1530 GMT Monday the FTSE 100 was down 26.3 points at 1,971.9 after a high of 1,991.0 at 0934 GMT.

The dealing rate cut by the Bank of England was quickly followed by a 1/2 point base rate cut to 10 1/2 per cent by National Westminster Bank and later by similar cuts by Barclays and Midland.

The market showed a fairly muted response to the base rate cuts as most had been discounting a one point reduction in base rates around the time of next week's budget. Dealers said in the light of this 1/2 point cut it is expected that the U.K. government will sanction a further 1/2 point cut in the budget.

Brazil appeals for help

TOKYO (R) — Brazilian Finance Minister Dilsen Funaro appealed Monday for Japanese help in sorting out his country's \$109 billion debt problem, and received sympathy but little else.

"We have to get more financing from international institutions, creditor banks and governments," Mr. Funaro told a press conference.

The minister arrived in Tokyo Sunday from Europe for a hastily arranged set of meetings with Japanese bankers and government officials. The meetings seek to explain Brazil's decision last month to suspend interest payments on some \$68 billion in bank debt.

"The crisis is not a Brazilian problem, it is an international problem," he said. "It is not a financial problem, it is a political one."

But in talks Monday with Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Mr. Funaro got the same advice he heard last week in Europe: Work out a programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to put the inflation-ridden Brazilian economy back on its feet.

"Some kind of agreement must be made between Brazil and the IMF before we can sit down to talk about any new credit or rescheduling of Brazilian loans," Mr. Miyazawa told reporters after a 50-minute meeting with Mr. Funaro.

Brazil has resisted going to the IMF, which polices the world's economies, because it believes

the fund's prescriptions will only throw its economy into recession.

"We have to keep our economy growing," Mr. Funaro said Monday through an interpreter.

He said Brazil had made plenty of sacrifices in the past and it was now up to others to share the burden. The country needed lower interest rates and a longer time frame in which to pay its debts.

Mr. Funaro also called for both creditors and debtors to work together to develop a new way of handling the continuing debt crisis.

He criticised the present system as too slow, saying rescheduling negotiations could drag on for months without any result.

During their visit here, Mr. Funaro and Brazilian Central Bank President Francisco Gross are meeting commercial bank creditors, the first time they have done so since beginning their overseas trip more than a week ago.

In Washington and Europe, the Brazilians confined their consultations to government officials.

Brazilian embassy officials said the two men believe that Japanese banks may be more open than their counterparts overseas to changes in the way the country's debt is handled.

The two nations also have strong and continuing economic ties, with joint projects in many areas, the officials said.

Japan accounts for about \$10 to \$12 billion of Brazil's \$109 billion in foreign debts.

U.S. Congress presses to curb loans to developing countries

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Congress is growing more and more angry with the multinational development banks which make loans to help other countries produce goods in direct competition with beleaguered American farmers and miners.

With a record trade deficit of \$169 billion last year and a farm economy in the doldrums, Congress is pressing to hold back U.S. funds for the World Bank and other development banks if the money is used to subsidize production or to produce goods already in oversupply around the world.

"American tax dollars are being used to subsidize foreign agriculture and mineral production that is often in direct competition with our producers," Senator Don Nickles, an Oklahoma Republican, said in a letter to fellow senators seeking support for his legislation to limit these loans.

Mr. Nickles and Senator Steven Symms, a conservative Republican from Idaho, have introduced legislation that would strictly limit U.S. funding of multinational development banks if they make any loans to help developing countries produce surplus commodities or minerals.

Current law requires the United States to vote against such loans but carries no reprisals if they are ultimately approved by the banks.

Treasury Secretary James Baker has asserted Congress that the administration opposes such loans. "As a policy matter, we

oppose loans for production of commodities in oversupply," he told a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on foreign operations earlier this month.

Senators cited a \$350 million World Bank loan to Argentina last year to help it increase agricultural exports by \$1 billion a year by 1989.

Mr. Nickles, Mr. Symms and others also have cited other loans such as a 1985 World Bank loan to Hungary to expand livestock exports and \$300 million lent to Thailand from 1981 to 1985 at low interest rates for agriculture.

Mr. Baker replied that the Argentine loan was "really the only one you can point to and criticize."

Last year the Republican-controlled Senate voted three times over the objections of the administration to cut U.S. funding of development banks by the amount of these loans.

Even with a 65 to 15 vote in favour of the proposal, the restrictions were weakened in the final version. Only a provision directing U.S. officials to vote disapproval cleared Congress.

This year's version, called the Foreign Agricultural Investment Reform (FAIR) Act, would require the United States to vote against loans designed to increase production of surplus commodities and minerals. Borrowing countries would also have to prove that the production, marketing and export of the commodities could be handled without government subsidy.

Iranian oil production declines

NICOSIA, Cyprus (Agencies) — Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh has ruled out any oil price cut by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported Monday.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Aqazadeh as saying in Tripoli, Libya, Sunday night that OPEC members would rather reduce oil production to defend prices than agree to any price cut.

His statement came amid a tug-of-war over prices between OPEC, which wants a fixed pricing system, and buyers who are pressing for a more flexible system with discounts based on market fluctuations.

Iran is one of the staunchest advocates of a fixed price.

Iran's oil production slipped last month to around 1.7 million barrels a day from 2.2 million barrels, its OPEC quota level, in January, the authoritative Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

Iran's production "could fall much further in March if the buyer-seller impasse is not somehow broken," the Nicosia-based weekly noted.

It said Saudi Arabia's output in February was 3.9 million barrels a day, well below its OPEC quota of 4.133 million barrels, and could dip to 3.5 million barrels or lower in March if sales continue to slip.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia also declared support for a fixed-price

policy Feb. 27.

Aqazadeh told reporters when he arrived in the Libyan capital on the last leg of a three-nation African tour that the majority of OPEC's 13 members stood by their decision to boost prices following last year's disastrous slump.

Aqazadeh declared that efforts to push oil prices down were "of a political nature."

He stressed that these moves have been "thwarted to a certain degree." But IRNA quoted him as saying that "there is a need for talks with OPEC members" on the issue.

OPEC agreed last December to cut production to 14.35 million barrels a day to push prices back to the level of \$18 a barrel.

Prices slumped from around \$30 a barrel at the end of 1985 to below \$10 in mid-1986, seriously eroding oil revenues amid a world glut.

Iran, which has been at war with fellow-OPEC member Iraq since September 1980, has campaigned vigorously for production cutbacks to push prices back up. Iran depends on its oil income to pay for the war that costs Tehran at least \$7 billion a year.

Aqazadeh arrived in Tripoli from Algeria where he held two

days of talks with senior officials on the oil issue. He held similar talks in Gabon last week.

Libya and Algeria have been aligned with Iran among OPEC's so-called hardliners who seek to push prices up as fast and as far as possible. Gabon also is an OPEC member.

IRNA quoted Libya's Petroleum and Planning Minister Fawzi Shahshouki, as saying Tripoli backs any move to boost prices and stabilise the world oil market.

The agency quoted him as blaming the oil price slump on "non-economic factors."

The OPEC hardliners have charged in the past that the United States and its allies were behind the price collapse in a bid to weaken radical Middle East regimes.

Meanwhile, the suspension of Ecuador's crude oil shipments caused by the earthquake which ruptured a major oil pipeline will last at least four months, a senior energy ministry official said Monday.

The official, who declined to be identified, told Reuters the country would resume exports only after repairing the pipeline which links jungle oil fields to the Pacific Ocean coast.

The official said the country had enough oil to meet domestic demand for about 35 days, so it would have to import crude to supplement these stocks.

The earthquake last Thursday night, registering six on the 12-

point international Mercalli scale, damaged a 40-kilometre section of the 510-kilometre pipeline.

The damage was a severe economic blow in Ecuador where oil traditionally counts for up to two-thirds of total exports and as much as 60 per cent of government revenues.

It would take about \$100 million to repair the pipeline, the energy ministry official said.

Financially pressed Ecuador, a member of OPEC, was recently pumping about 260,000 barrels per day (b/d) of crude, about 50,000 b/d above the output quota assigned by the group, an energy ministry said.

Last year it exported an average of 173,500 b/d, according to the central bank.

Ecuador was considering building an emergency 25-kilometre pipeline, costing \$15 to \$20 million, to hook up with a Colombian pipeline. The official estimated it could take about 60 days to build.

Ecuador, squeezed by the slide in world oil prices in 1986, had only \$138 million in net international reserves at the end of January — an amount equal to about one month's worth of imports.

It suspended interest payments in January this year on \$5.4 billion owed to about 400 or so private foreign banks.

The country's total foreign debt is \$8.16 billion, the eighth largest in Latin America.

MEES reports new oil finds in N. Yemen

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — New oil and gas fields have been discovered in North Yemen, long one of the Arab World's most impoverished nations, as it nears a modest start as an oil producer, the authoritative Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The Nicosia-based weekly said the new fields were found over the last few months by a consortium of the Hunt Oil Co. and Exxon Corp. in the Marib-Jawf region of northeast Yemen.

The survey said that industry sources indicated the new fields will double North Yemen's oil

reserves to an estimated one billion barrels.

Total gas reserves found so far in the region were estimated five trillion cubic feet, MEES reported.

The Marib-Jawf concession was awarded in 1981 to the Yemen Hunt Oil Co., a subsidiary of the Dallas-based Hunt Oil Co. Exxon took a 49 per cent stake in Hunt's share of the Alif field in the Marib region in 1985.

A South Korean consortium also has a 24.5 per cent stake in the field.

Alif, with proven reserves of 500,000 barrels, is the only major

field discovered in North Yemen so far. It also has sizeable gas reserves.

President Ali Abdallah Salah announced March 1 that his country will start oil production with 200,000 barrels a day in the last quarter of this year.

The MEES reported that production was expected to double in the next few years as further fields are developed.

North Yemen borders Saudi Arabia, the major producer in the Arab World with one quarter of the world's oil reserves.

But, with no proven oil reserves of its own until four years

ago, it has depended largely on foreign aid, particularly from Saudi Arabia.

The weekly noted that a 430-kilometre export pipeline from a refinery in the Marib field to the Red Sea terminal at Hodeidah is scheduled to be completed ahead of schedule in September. The pipeline will be able to carry 200,000 barrels a day.

MEES reported that the North Yemenis also were either building other oil installations or considering constructing new facilities for their embryonic oil industry that will transform the country's economy.

U.S. attacks tight-fisted Japan budget

TOKYO (R) — The United States, battling a huge trade deficit with Japan, has for the first time openly criticised Tokyo's tight-fisted budgetary policy and warned Japan must act firmly to boost its economy, senior U.S. officials said Monday.

In high-level trade talks last week, Washington called Tokyo's overall fiscal policy deflationary and argued that Japan's economic position is not as dire as it says, the officials said.

The United States wants Japan to reduce its \$51 billion trade surplus by stimulating its flagging economy and moving away from dependence on exports.

But Japan's finance ministry was maintained for some time that it is prevented from spending more to boost its economy be-

cause the central government is already heavily in debt.

Washington's attack last week represented a distinct shift of emphasis by the Reagan administration, which until recently had been sympathetic to Tokyo's efforts to reduce the government's role in the economy, diplomats said.

The criticism reflects a growing feeling among the U.S. policy-makers that Japan's budget policy is frustrating attempts to stimulate domestic demand and boost imports.

Faced with mounting domestic calls for action, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has already promised to introduce measures to stimulate the economy when the budget is published next month.

But Japanese government bureaucrats have cautioned that they do not expect the package to contain much more than a reshuffle of last April's measures.

That would amount to accelerated public investment, and measures to pass along the benefits of the strong yen to consumers, none of which would have major immediate economic effect.

Pointing out that Japan promised its trading partners in Paris last month to take action to boost domestic demand, a senior U.S. treasury official said the April package must be more than run-of-the-mill.

Several Japanese officials agreed with the U.S. assessment that the real obstacle to stimulation of the economy is the finance ministry, opposed to major

spending increases.

They welcomed the shift in U.S. policy, but expressed concern that the move might backfire by causing resentment against U.S. interference in domestic Japanese affairs.

Ministry of international trade and industry (MITI) vice minister for international affairs, Mr. Makoto Karoda, said Japan would stimulate the economy not in response to U.S. criticism but to meet mounting pressure from Japanese businessmen.

The shift in U.S. policy is also causing some nervousness in the Reagan administration itself. U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs, Mr. Allen Walis, told reporters last week that Washington does not necessarily want Tokyo to spend more.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: It's a great day to find out from others exactly what they expect from you and what you can expect from them. Also, learn how to increase your holdings.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you ask an influential person for advice on improving your position in life, you get excellent advice.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be with associates and good pals and better organize your affairs. Contact friends you have been neglecting.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Delve into some worldly matter that is important to your welfare. Become a more dynamic person.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get busy working on new ambitions and make real progress. Make sure you drive with care.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) It's a good day to have a long talk with your mate that can make the future brighter for both of you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Associates and friends now understand your views and the relationships improve considerably.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Bigwigs give you the OK now for any activities you want to engage in. Be active and happy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are highly inspired to gain your wishes, whether they be of a personal or practical nature.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Show your kin your devotion is for them, and gain more affection accordingly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get in touch with outside partners and improve the relationships. Gain more prestige with civic matters.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study the benefits you are receiving from the work that you do and plan how to make them greater.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study whatever pleases you the most and get your friends to agree with you. Make big headway now.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will be able to get ideas across easily, so be sure to give as fine an academic education as you can afford at the most modern schools. Your progeny can do very well in the field of merchandising, whether a male or female. Travel would be wise during early youth.

THE Daily Crossword

by Bernard Moron

ACROSS

1 Hairless

5 Saguaro and mesquite

10 Accomplished

13 Curved molding

14 Synthetic fabric

15 First grade

16 Wash, neighbor

17 Cornucopia

18 Wreck and ...

19 P.L. inter

22 Anything

23 High-down

24 Drive away

27 — do me

30 Movie component

32 Poem form

33 "Akin" and "Faint"

36 ERA or FBI

38 Strait between Cuba and Haiti

41 Major follower

42 Hanging place

43 Stabber or Berry

44 Unhappy cry

46 Before

47 Court's Chris

49 Hunter's quarry

51 Full position

52 Dangle, ocean section?

60 Dies —

61 Ray

62 Entrance

63 Code

64 Make happy

65 Observer's

66 Printer's

67 Measure

68 Scratched out

69 Being: Lat.

DOWN

1 Bleeding

2 Taj Mahal site

3 Ruler's look

4 SA e.p.

5 Color dance

6 Neighborhood

7 Highland group

8 Crags

9 Map on a map

10 Surprised look

11 Amazon dolphin

12 Galaxy

13 Movie

14 Parrot

15 Seller

16 Baseball's

17 Schoolboy —

18 Five-pointed

19 Figure

20 Ocean or

21 Fugger

22 Slight error

23 Bear

24 Full stop

25 Turn to Rome

26 Escape

27 Libels

28 Upright stone

29 Light

30 Flightless

31 Bird

32 Lovers' device

33 Set one's

34 Lizards

35 Walk

36 Ireland

Aquino swears in 4 ministers as Filipinos start election campaign

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corazon Aquino Monday swore in four new cabinet ministers and denied that an important aide had resigned from her government.

The new appointments filled vacancies in the 27-member cabinet created by the resignations of seven ministers who plan to stand in the May 11 senatorial elections. Campaigning began Monday.

Mrs. Aquino named human rights lawyer Sedfrey Ordonez, 65, as new justice secretary and Fulgencio Factoran, 43, also a human rights counsel, as secretary of natural resources.

Another lawyer, Ramon Diaz, 65, was named chairman of the Presidential Commission of Good Government, which is charged with recovering billions of dollars allegedly stashed away by deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

Agriculture expert Carlos

Dominguez, 41, who was a consultant to a leading bank before he joined the Aquino government, was appointed agriculture secretary.

Mrs. Aquino, questioned by reporters, denied a Manila newspaper report that her powerful executive secretary, Joker Arroyo, had quit.

Mr. Arroyo later spoke with reporters and said: "The president says I am staying, therefore I stay."

Some members of the military last year asked that Mr. Arroyo be fired for what they said were his leftist sympathies but Mrs. Aquino affirmed her confidence in him and kept him on.

Mr. Arroyo confirmed Monday that he offered his resignation

from the cabinet twice last year but Mrs. Aquino refused it.

Campaigning in the Philippines for seats in a new two-house congress has begun with political analysts predicting that the election will be the first in 16 years relatively free of vote-rigging and fraud.

Candidates for the 24 senate seats closed at midnight with 132 contenders ranging from Arturo Tolentino — the running mate of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos — to Bernabe Buscayno, once head of the Communist New People's Army (NPA).

In the middle, Mrs. Aquino's loose-knit coalition has fielded 24 official candidates. Several other politicians are expected to declare their candidacies for the 240 lower house seats when entries close later this month.

Analysts predict that the May 11 polls will be the country's first

free and full election to be held since 1971, although they expect the campaign to be marked by the occasional violence and attempts at vote-buying that are a traditional part of Philippine politics.

Candidates in the presidential election last year campaigned relatively freely but voting was distorted by massive cheating.

"The differences is that this time people expect the outcome to be fair. Under Marcos, it didn't matter what happened in the campaign, you always knew who was going to win," one political analyst told Reuters.

The legislature elected in 1971 was abolished by Marcos the following year when he imposed martial law lasting until 1981. He succeeded that with a parliament widely seen as a "rubber stamp" body, elected in polls shot through with fraud, corruption and vote-rigging.

Murdani says Indonesia is stable ahead of polls

JAKARTA (R) — Armed Forces Commander General Benny Murdani has said warnings about extremist threats to coming elections in Indonesia do not mean the security situation has deteriorated.

He was quoted in Monday's edition of the armed forces newspaper Harian AB as saying the warnings were only an appeal for vigilance ahead of the April 23 polls in South East Asia's largest nation.

The military commander of central Java, Indonesia's most populous island, said last week in widely-quoted remarks that extremists of both right and left were planning to sabotage the polls in an attempt to topple President Suharto's government.

Maj.-Gen. Setijana said underground Communist Party elements were infiltrating the armed forces and intellectual organisations.

His statements coincided with the visit to Jakarta of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Speaking at a meeting of the ruling Golkar Party in Jakarta Sunday, Gen. Murdani said he believed the security situation was now stable.

"Disturbances, if there were any, were more a normal part of life than reflecting a tendency towards something more serious," Harian AB quoted him as saying.

He said Gen. Setijana's remarks were designed to stress the need for caution, rather than to suggest that the security situation was getting any worse.

Gen. Murdani said that mass gatherings during the election campaign period should be avoided, as they could trigger

what he termed a "critical situation" very easily.

Campaigning for the poll has been limited to 25 days and mass rallies have been banned to avoid disturbances.

In the last parliamentary elections in 1982, around 60 people died in accidents and election-related violence, including an outbreak of rioting in Jakarta.

The country's 94 million voters will elect 400 members of the House of Representatives in the parliamentary ballot from 2,065 candidates. One hundred other seats in the 500-seat legislature are reserved for the military.

Parliamentary elections next month in the former Portuguese colony of East Timor should not be viewed as an exercise in self-determination, the territory's governor was quoted Monday as saying.

Mario Carrascalao was responding to reports that the elections in East Timor may be seen as a referendum on the future of the Indonesian-ruled territory, Indonesia's official Antara News Agency reported.

Western diplomats said some months ago that Indonesia was talking with Portugal about bringing in United Nations observers to certify parliamentary elections as a referendum on self-determination.

The United Nations still recognises Lisbon as the administering power in East Timor 10 years after Indonesia invaded it to end a civil war that began when Portugal decolonised the territory.

Indonesian diplomats have been campaigning to win international recognition for Indonesian rule over East Timor, which is opposed by a small guerrilla army.

Colombo blames foreigners for supplying arms to rebels

COLOMBO (R) — A Sri Lanka minister has accused unidentified "foreign elements" of supplying arms to Tamil guerrillas while talking publicly with the Colombo government.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali made the accusation as 29 people were killed in clashes between rebels and troops in northern Sri Lanka over the weekend.

Mr. Athulathmudali told a public meeting at Ratnapura on Saturday: "It is a matter of great regret that certain foreign elements, while talking publicly with the Sri Lankan government, are supplying arms to terrorists to kill Sri Lankans."

The arms secretly supplied to rebels were used not only to kill Sinhalese and Muslims but also Tamils, the minister said, according to an official summary of his speech released Monday.

Mr. Athulathmudali did not name the foreign elements but he was believed to have been referring to India. New Delhi has

denied previous Sri Lankan charges that Tamil rebels are trained and armed in India.

More than 5,000 people have died in the conflict between majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils in the past four years. The guerrillas are fighting troops in the north and east to set up an independent homeland for Tamils.

Mr. Athulathmudali is in charge of military operations against the rebels.

The government said Monday three rebels were killed in a clash Sunday between a security forces patrol and guerrillas in their northern stronghold of Jaffna.

Nine rebels were killed and 10 wounded Sunday when security forces and guerrillas pounded each other's positions in Jaffna with mortar bombs, the government said.

Sunday's clashes followed the killing of 11 security men and six civilians by a guerrilla landmine in northern Sri Lanka on Saturday.

Son pleads for Hess' release

BERLIN (AP) — The son of Rudolf Hess has made an emotional appeal to allied powers to let his 92-year-old jailed and ailing father, the former deputy to Adolf Hitler, "die in peace at home."

Wolf Ruediger Hess, in a newspaper interview Sunday, said "the end could come any day" for his father, who is suffering from pneumonia.

Hess, the last imprisoned leader of Nazi Germany, was taken from West Berlin's Spandau Prison to the nearby British military hospital in West Berlin one week ago.

He was suffering from bronchitis but later developed pneumonia, which can be fatal for elderly people.

The younger Hess on Saturday said that his father had responded

to antibiotics and that his condition had improved.

But in an interview with the mass-circulation Bild Am Sonntag newspaper, he said: "This hospital stay means that the end could come any day."

Wolf Ruediger Hess, 49, made his appeal to the World War II allies which jointly administer Spandau Prison: The United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union.

"Let him die in peace at home," he said. "Be humane, grant him that he live the last days of his life in freedom."

Hess, sentenced to life imprisonment at the Nuremberg war crimes trial in 1946, was sent to Spandau in 1947 and has been the only inmate in the vast prison, built for 600 people, for 21 years.

Sakharov: Talks must focus on strategic arms

NEW YORK (R) — Soviet physicist Andrei Sakharov has criticised the U.S. Star Wars space defence programme, saying it should not be allowed to stand in the way of a strategic arms control pact.

Dr. Sakharov's remarks, first made last month at the "forum for a nuclear-free world" in Moscow, were published Monday in Time magazine with the comment by Dr. Sakharov that his views had earlier been reported "imprecisely and incompletely." The forum was closed to reporters.

He said in the article that Star Wars, formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), would not be effective and described it as "a kind of Maginot Line in space."

Dr. Sakharov said Moscow should not be preoccupied in arms control talks to the suspension of the Star Wars programme, saying Soviet fears about the potential threat were unfounded.

"A significant cut in inter-con-

tinental ballistic missiles and medium-range and battlefield missiles... should be negotiated as soon as possible, independently of SDI. I believe that a compromise on SDI can be reached later," he said.

Dr. Sakharov made his Moscow speech before Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed to discuss cuts in medium-range missiles without an accord on SDI. He had previously insisted that no arms control agreement could be negotiated while Washington pursued Star Wars.

Dr. Sakharov, released last year after being sent into internal exile for dissenting activities, also said proportional U.S.-Soviet cuts in strategic weapons would not bring stability.

Such cuts, he said, should rather be made in a way that allowed the Soviet Union to reduce the proportion of its long-range missiles based in relatively vulnerable silos.

Thai army captures 2 of Burmese warlord's bases

BANGKOK (R) — Thai troops have captured two more bases of Burmese warlord Khun Sa in northern Thailand, Thai border police said Monday.

Police Major Vichit Vetchasart said the bases, near Doi Taopoon in Chiang Rai province, fell on Friday, three days after the army pushed Khun Sa's ethnic Shan rebels from part of the larger Doi Lang base nearby.

Mr. Vichit gave no casualty

figures for Friday's fighting. He stressed that the Thai troops stayed on their own side of the frontier with Burma.

Khun Sa is said to be the most powerful warlord in the opium-growing Golden Triangle, which covers parts of Burma, Thailand and Laos.

Narcotics officials accuse him of drugs smuggling. Khun Sa denies the charge, but admits to taxing drugs traffic.

Greenpeace criticises pollution of Antarctic

WELLINGTON (R) — The environmental protection group Greenpeace Monday criticised the United States and other countries for leaving rubbish at the bottom of the world.

"It is like a running sore on the side of Antarctica," said Peter Wilkinson, the leader of a returned Greenpeace expedition.

Mr. Wilkinson described to journalists in Wellington the U.S. dump at McMurdo Sound, also used by New Zealand.

"The waste, the rubbish tip and the stuff they are leaving on the ice to sink through is a disgrace ...

old lorries, discarded oil barrels, all manner of paper waste blowing in the breeze," he said.

"Dumont D'Urville, the French base, is like a building site in the middle of a penguin colony."

The Greenpeace expedition returned to New Zealand Monday after establishing a year-round base camp at Cape Evans.

"I think it's about time for the Antarctic treaty consultative parties to recognise Greenpeace has arrived in the Antarctic and we intended to stay," Mr. Wilkinson said.

South Korean cardinal urges democratic reforms

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's top-ranking Roman Catholic prelate has demanded that President Chun Doo-hwan push harder to promote democratic reforms.

At a mass Sunday night, Cardinal Stephen Sou-Hwan Kim, the leader of South Korea's 2.3 million Roman Catholics, charged that the country's current political difficulties remain unresolved because the Chun government looks down on its own people.

The sermon, published in Seoul newspapers Monday, was one of the strongest attacks on the Chun government made by the Catholic leader in recent years.

"In order to protect our students from Communist indoctrination, political democratisa-

tion should be pushed first and, particularly, the president himself should carry out democratic reforms more resolutely," Kim said.

"If our political leaders continue to despise their people and rely on rifles and sabers, they will invite their own deaths, just as the Bible says that those who use knives will fall victim to the knives," Kim said.

Kim said the trend toward leftist politics by Korean students is mainly a reaction to government repression.

"The fundamental reason for the increasing number of leftist students lies in the government's iron-fisted rule, the insensitive use of power, social injustices and corruption, and the widening gap between rich and poor," he said.

Ecuador dismisses report of 200 deaths in quake

QUITO (R) — Ecuadoran Municipal officials have said up to 200 people could have died in last week's earthquake but national government officials rejected the figure and put the confirmed death toll at 20.

Two municipal officials in the town of Tena, 160 kilometres east of Quito, said about 200 people died in the north eastern jungle province of Napo when the Aguarico River swept away huts and tiny hamlets after the quake on Thursday.

Deputy Mayor Carlos Onate and the local director of education, Ramiro Perez, gave the figure in telephone interviews aired on Quito's Radio Tarqui.

But Tena Mayor Mentor Vayas

told the Tarqui Radio station he could not confirm the figure of 200 because the bodies could not be counted.

Health Minister Jorge Bracho told Reuters authorities had counted only 20 victims from last Thursday's earthquake and said he could confirm only 16 deaths in Napo. Four people died elsewhere near Colombian border.

"The report that 200 people have died in Napo is absurd, it's an exaggeration," he said. "No one can show that number of bodies to demonstrate this is true."

But he confirmed the Aguarico River had doubled in width to more than 400 metres and said the death toll could rise in Napo.

Basques pay last respects to dead guerrilla leader

MONDRAGON, Spain (AP) — Thousands of men, women and children stood in the drizzling rain to pay their last respects to Domingo Imbe Abasolo, a Basque separatist leader regarded as both a hero and a terrorist.

Imbe, 43, better known by his Basque name "Txomin," died on Feb. 27 in an automobile accident in Algeria where he had been living in exile since French authorities deported him last July.

His body was returned to his hometown early Sunday by motorcade from Barcelona where it had been flown from Algiers.

As honour guards carried his plain-wooden coffin from the 17th-century city hall to a nearby church, the crowd began to sing the hymn of the Basque soldier,

the traditional Basque nationalist anthem, and to wave red, green and white "Ikurriras" or Basque flags.

Inside the small gothic church five priests said the funeral mass entirely in Euskera, the Basque language, as a crowd estimated at 6,000 chanted "independence" and "long live ETA."

ETA, the Basque separatist organisation, seeks independence for the three-province northern Spanish Basque country.

Following the funeral mass the coffin was carried through the streets of this town of 26,500 to a local cemetery.

No incidents were reported and there were no police officers on the scene.

Depleted ozone layer 'may be causing skin cancer epidemic'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The rise in skin cancer linked to destruction of the earth's stratospheric ozone sun screen is reaching near epidemic rates, a research physician warns.

"Skin cancer represents a serious problem in the U.S. today," Dr. Darrell Rigel said in testimony prepared for a congressional hearing Monday.

Dr. Rigel is a physician at the New York University Medical Centre. In prepared remarks made available Friday, he estimated that more than 500,000 skin cancers will be diagnosed in the United States this year, accounting for one-third of the new cancer cases in this country.

"The rate of skin cancer in the U.S. is increasing at a near epidemic pace," he said.

Dr. Rigel said the rate of malignant melanoma, the type of skin cancer that is often fatal, is rising faster than any other form of cancer except lung cancer in women.

Dr. Rigel said that although many factors have been linked to

skin cancer, "the generally accepted most important factor is exposure to ultraviolet light."

The congressional hearing concerns the depletion of the ozone layer in the atmosphere that acts as a natural filter against the sun's ultraviolet rays. There is growing global concern that emissions of chemicals such as chlorofluorocarbons are destroying stratospheric ozone and allowing more ultraviolet rays to reach the earth's surface.

"One would expect skin cancer rates to increase as the ozone thins," said Dr. Rigel, testifying that researchers have been forced to update projections of skin cancer rates made only five years ago.

He said that five years ago researchers estimated that one in 250 Americans would develop malignant melanoma during their lifetimes and projected an increase to one in 150 by the year 2000.

"This year... to our chagrin we found we had not anticipated the

recent surge in this disease and (that) our estimates were too conservative," Dr. Rigel said. "We now estimate the lifetime risk for developing this deadly type of cancer has already exceeded our year 2000 projection and is now one in 135."

He said that not only is the skin cancer rate rising, the disease is being found in people of increasingly younger age.

"Five years ago, it was unusual to see persons under the age of 40 with skin cancer," Dr. Rigel said. "Now we will often see person in their 20s with this disease."

He said there has been a major increase in public awareness of the problem, aided by the cases of the mildest, most treatable form of skin cancer experienced by President Ronald Reagan, his wife and Vice President George Bush.

Dr. Rigel said that while physicians and public health authorities have alerted people to the danger of overexposure to the sun, "very little has been done to

attempt to alter the environmental factors that may be contributing to this rapidly increasing rate of skin cancer."

"If our ozone layer is depleted, one could envision a future situation where despite maximal sun avoidance and screening, people in their everyday activities alone might receive enough (ultraviolet) radiation to develop skin cancer."

The problem of the ozone layer is attracting renewed attention this year in Congress.

The U.S. government is attempting through diplomatic negotiations to persuade the industrialised world to make deep cutbacks the production and use of chlorofluorocarbons.

These chemicals, which can destroy ozone molecules decades after entering the upper atmosphere, are widely employed as aerosol spray propellants, refrigerants and industrial solvents. The United States unilaterally banned their use in spray cans a decade ago, but few other nations have followed suit.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Statue of Ramses II arrives in Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — The 47-tonne statue of Egypt's Ramses II arrived Sunday for an exhibit that has sold over 200,000 advance tickets. The 24-foot (seven metre) statue will highlight the Ramses the Great Exhibition of ancient Egyptian artifacts next month. Organisers of the April 15 to Aug. 31 exhibition said advance tickets sales have reached 200,000, twice the number originally expected. At least 500,000 visitors are expected at the Memphis exhibition, officials said.

Princess Caroline expecting third child

MONACO (AP) — Princess Caroline and her husband, Italian businessman Stephano Casiraghi, are expecting their third child at the end of the summer, a statement from the principality's press office said Monday. The couple are the parents of Andrea Albert Pierre, 2, and Charlotte Marie Pomeline, 7 months. Caroline, 30, is the elder daughter of the late American film star Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier.

Police prevent nude worship

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Police kept 3,000 residents of a southern Indian village indoors and put up roadblocks to enforce a government ban on nude worship of a Hindu deity. "There are police everywhere, the worshippers are scared. It appears government is serious in imposing the ban," said C. Nagraj, a United News of India (UNI) news agency reporter in Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka state. The Renukamba Temple, where nude worship has been held annually on March 8 and 9, is 320 kilometres north west of Bangalore. The Karnataka government banned the popular festival on March 2 after an official commission recommended that the tradition be banned. The commission was set up after a confrontation a year ago between opponents of nude worship and the naked devotees. Members of the pro-moderate faction tried to clothe the worshippers, but were instead stripped by the devotees. Several policemen and some journalists were also stripped, which contributed to a state-wide protest. Last year 10,000 devotees prayed in the temple nude. Nude worship, the origins of which are unclear, was technically banned in Karnataka in 1966. But before this year there was no official effort to prevent it.

Stolen goods raffled at policemen's ball

HANOVER, West Germany (R) — Goods raffled at a policemen's ball in Meppen, West Germany, were found to have been stolen. The prizes, including kitchen scales and a coffee pot, were bought out-price from a patrolman who is suspected of robbing local shops, a spokesman said. The patrolman is alleged to have provided forged receipts produced on a stolen typewriter.

China discovers 3,200-year-old wine

PEKING (AP) — Chinese archaeologists have unearthed a bronze jar in a tomb dating back 3,200 years that contains what may be the world's oldest wine, a state-run daily has said. The China Daily said the wine was found in Luoshan county, Henan province, in a riverside tomb dating back to the late Shang Dynasty (16th-11th century B.C.). It easily predates Roman wine discovered in a shipwreck in the Mediterranean and thought to have been the world's oldest vintage. The tomb was excavated in 1980 but research was suspended for several years because of a lack of modern equipment, and findings were only recently made public, the English-language daily said. It said chemists at Peking University drilled two small holes in the bottom of the gourd-shaped jar and extracted about one kilogramme of liquid. It quoted Li Zhiming, associate professor of the Chemistry Department at the university, as saying the alcohol content in the liquid had diminished considerably and further tests were needed to determine whether it was made from grain or fruit. The jar was buried in clay and the cover was tightly sealed, preventing evaporation of the liquid. The wine is now being kept in a refrigerator in the department's laboratory, the report said.

Snakes scare students

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Snakes lured out of their usual haunts by warm spring weather have scared dozens of students away from the campus of Jahangirnagar University, outside Dhaka, a newspaper reported. The government-owned English-language newspaper Bangladesh Times said some of the snakes have slipped into dormitory rooms, and students have killed at least three poisonous snakes in the last week. "But at least 100 students, mostly girls, have left the campus in the past two weeks for fear of snakes," the paper said. More than 2,000 students live in four red-brick dormitories, surrounded by bushes and hillocks, on the campus at Savar, 25 kilometres north west of Dhaka. Last year, one employee of the university died of a snake bite and another poisonous snake was found in a student's bookshelf.

Soviets mark Women's Day

MOSCOW (AP) — The red ink reserved for holidays was splashed across the tops of Soviet newspapers, wishing peace and happiness to the daughters of the Soviet Union on International Women's Day. On the streets, men rushed to deliver expensive, newspaper-wrapped bouquets to mothers, daughters, wives or sweethearts. At home, many of the women who were being honoured prepared family meals, to be accompanied by toasts of vodka and champagne. In the Soviet Union, International Women's Day combines the sentimentality of Mother's Day and the patriotism of a civic holiday. Presents are essential, as are official greetings from the Kremlin. On Friday, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and government and party officials gathered in Moscow's famed Bolshoi Theatre to extend best wishes and praise women's contributions to Soviet life.

Customs officers held after drugs seized

SYDNEY (R) — Two Australian customs officials, one a senior investigating officer, were among seven people arrested after the seizure of 5.6 kilos (12 pounds) of heroin worth six million dollars (\$4.1 million), the Australian Federal Police said. Four men and three women will be charged after a 13-month investigation involving police on three continents, a police spokesman told reporters. The arrests were made in raids in Sydney's eastern suburbs and in communities along the central New South Wales coast. The seven face charges of importing and possessing heroin and conspiracy to import it, the spokesman said. The joint investigation by the police and customs began after a tipoff from Britain's New Scotland Yard, he said. It involved police in London, Islamabad, Hong Kong, Singapore and Los Angeles. The spokesman said the senior investigator had once worked for British customs and for Australia's Federal Narcotics Bureau, disbanded some years ago following allegations of corruption. He added that the other customs officer arrested was a girlfriend of the senior investigator. The spokesman said heroin had been concealed in soccer balls and shipped into Australia. The names of those arrested have not yet been released.

Soviets warned against sex with foreigners

MOSCOW (R) — The head of a Soviet team carrying out research into AIDS has warned Soviet people about the dangers of sexual contact with foreigners. Vadim Pokrovsky, who is leading research at a Moscow clinic, said those most at risk were people who had sex with foreigners and who led dissolute sex lives. "It is especially dangerous to have sexual relations with foreigners," he said. His remarks were made in an interview published recently by the official newspaper Leninskoye Znamya, which said it had received many letters from readers worried about the spread of AIDS in the West.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WHO NEEDS TRUMPS?

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ K 7 6 5
♥ Q 10
♦ 8 6 5
♣ 10 8 7 6

EAST
♠ A Q J 9 4 3
♥ A 7 6 5
♦ A K Q 4
♣ 9 4

SOUTH
♠ 8
♥ K J 8 4 3 2
♦ 7 3 2
♣ A K 3

The bidding:
East South West North
1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass Pass
2 ♠ 3 ♥ Double Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠.

Much of the fascination of duplicate bridge centers around the ability to collect 200 from the opponents when all your side can make is a partscore worth slightly less than that. Or, for that matter, to pick up 500 when all you have is a not vulnerable